

# Mission Accomplished



The 408-foot spire at the top of One World Trade Center is seen from lower Manhattan, Friday, May 10, 2013 in New York. The tall, heavy spire was fully installed Friday, bringing One World Trade Center to its symbolic height of 1,776 feet.

(AP Photo/Mary Altaffer)

## One World Trade Center reaches symbolic 1,776 feet

**TED SHAFFREY**  
**ULA ILNYTZKY**  
**Associated Press**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — A tall, heavy spire was fully installed atop One World Trade Center on Friday, bringing the New York City structure to its symbolic height of 1,776 feet.

Loud applause and cries of joy erupted from construction workers assembled on a temporary work platform on the roof of the building as the huge, silver spire was gently lowered and secured into place.

The 1,776 feet — or 541 meters — is symbolic of the year 1776, when the

U.S. declared its independence.

"It's a pretty awesome feeling," Juan Estevez said from a temporary platform on the roof of the tower where he and other workers watched the milestone. "It's a culmination of a tremendous amount of team work ... rebuilding the New York City skyline once again," said Estevez, a project manager for Tishman Construction.

He said the workers around him were "utterly overjoyed."

Installation of the final two sections of the 408-foot (124.36-meter), 758-ton

spire was completed after pieces of it had been transported to the roof of the building last week. It will serve as a world-class broadcast antenna.

The building is at the northwest corner of the site where the twin World Trade Center towers were destroyed in the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. The 72-story 4 World Trade Center is under construction at the southeast corner of the site.

Lee Ielpi, whose firefighter son died after responding to the attacks, watched workers secure the spire from his office at the near-

by 9/11 Tribute Center, which he co-founded.

"The building looks spectacular. ...

I'm looking forward to the day when the cranes come down and they light the spire at night," he said.

"It's supposed to be a very moving experience."

The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, which owns the site, said the LED-powered light would be activated in the next few months.

"It's going to have a light that you can see from tens of miles away,"

said Port Authority Vice Chairman Scott Rechler.

"And that light will change colors and in the next few months we are going to be activating that light, and it will be a beacon of hope just like the Statue of Liberty."

Friday's final installation, raising the building's height to 1,776 feet,

makes One World Trade Center the tallest skyscraper in the U.S. and third-tallest in the world, although building experts dispute whether the spire is actually an antenna — a crucial distinction in measuring the building's height.

The tower is slated to open for business in 2014. □

## 3 ultra-Orthodox men arrested in standoff at Western Wall

JODI RUDOREN

© 2013 New York Times

**JERUSALEM** — Heeding calls from their rabbis, thousands of ultra-Orthodox teenaged girls and wom-

en flooded the Western Wall on Friday morning to prevent close access by a group of women who pray in garments traditionally used by men, while hun-

dreds of black-hatted Orthodox men heckled the group from behind, whis-

ting, catcalling and throwing water, candy and a few chairs at them. Scores of uniformed police locked hands in cordons to protect the group of about

100 women from Women of the Wall, in a standoff that exemplified the broad battle in Israel over identity and religion in the public sphere, where holy sites and rites like marriage, divorce and conversion have for decades been controlled by the ultra-Orthodox minority, known here as Haredim. The confrontation came after a court ruled last month that the women should be al-

prayed at the wall, sparking outcry among Jews worldwide and prompting a government initiative to reexamine the regulations at the site. "All this commotion because of a group of women who want to pray to God," Lesley Sachs, director of Women of the Wall, said after the confrontation. "We hope that the government won't succumb to any kinds of threats or bullying and they will let us continue praying. This is part of the social battle. They need to get used to us." Three ultra-Orthodox men were arrested and two others detained for questioning in the course of the confrontation. Israel's government is at work on developing new regulations governing prayer at the site, a remnant of the retaining wall surrounding the ancient Temple Mount and a place revered by Jews around the world. Earlier this week, Israel's attorney general advised government ministers that they should immediately ban gender segregation on buses, in cemeteries, at health clinics and on the radio. At the same time, the new government

coalition that took office this spring has vowed to end widespread draft exemptions for yeshiva students, to overhaul the curriculum of ultrareligious schools, to curtail the subsidies their large families rely on and bring far more Orthodox men into the work force and tax base. Much of that was in the background at the Western Wall on Friday morning, as the ultra-Orthodox protesters shouted "The holiness of the place!" as well as curses at the women wearing prayer shawls and singing, both of which violate ultra-Orthodox custom. Women of the Wall have been praying and protesting at the wall for a quarter century. Until last month's court ruling, Israel's parliament and Supreme Court had held that prayer at the site must adhere to traditional practice.

"God, thank you that we're able to pray here in the same way that our great-great-great-great-great-great-great-grandmothers did," said Mattie Shaller, who identified herself only as a grandmother who lives in Jerusalem. "We are alive today, the Jewish people, because we've retained Torat Imenu, our mother's Torah. We don't need any changes." Ronit Beskin, who helped organize the protest against the women's group, said, "They're trying to push the limits." "They're trying to change the religion and politics in Israel — they should do that in the Knesset and not at the Kotel," Beskin said, using the Hebrew terms for Israel's parliament and the Western Wall. "The rules should be, honestly, just respect the tradition here. What about our rights as women?" About a dozen of the teenage girls, all of whom refused to give their names, said they had gotten up as early as 4 a.m. and poured onto buses from across Jerusalem as well as ultrareligious suburbs like Beit Shemesh and Beitar Illit chiefly because their leaders had ordered them to. □



**Women pray while helping to block members of Women of the Wall from having access to the Western Wall in Jerusalem, May 10, 2013. Thousands of ultra-Orthodox Jewish women and teenaged girls flooded the Western Wall Friday to block the group of women seeking to pray while wearing garments traditionally worn by men, and ultra-Orthodox men heckled the group from behind.**

(Rina Castelnovo/The New York Times)

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ting, catcalling and throwing water, candy and a few chairs at them. Scores of uniformed police locked hands in cordons to protect the group of about

100 women from Women of the Wall, in a standoff that exemplified the broad battle in Israel over identity and religion in the public sphere, where holy sites and rites like marriage, divorce and conversion have for decades been

## Bangladesh:

# Woman rescued after 17 days in rubble

JULHAS ALAM

Associated Press

**SAVAR, Bangladesh (AP)**

— For 17 days, the seamstress lay trapped in a dark basement pocket beneath thousands of tons of wreckage as temperatures outside climbed into the mid-90s F. She rationed food and water. She banged a pipe to attract attention. She was fast losing hope of ever making it out alive.

In the ruins of the collapsed eight-store garment factory building above her, the frantic rescue operation had long ago ended. It had turned instead into a grim search for the decaying bodies of the more than 1,000 people killed in the world's worst garment industry disaster.

"No one heard me. It was so bad for me. I never

dreamed I'd see the daylight again," the seamstress, Reshma Begum, told Somoy TV from her hospital bed after her astonishing rescue on Friday.

The miraculous moment came when salvage workers finally heard Begum's banging. They pulled her to safety. She was in shockingly good condition, wearing a violet outfit with a large, bright pink scarf.

"I heard her say, 'I am alive, please save me.' I gave her water. She was OK," said Miraj Hossain, a volunteer who crawled through the debris to help cut Begum free.

The rescue was broadcast on television across Bangladesh. The prime minister rushed to the hospital, as did the woman's family to embrace a loved one

they thought they'd never again see alive.

On April 24, Begum was working in a factory on the second floor of Rana Plaza when the building began collapsing around

her. She said she raced down a stairwell into the basement, where she became trapped near a Muslim prayer room in a wide pocket that allowed her to survive. □



**Rescuers carry a survivor pulled out from the rubble of a building that collapsed in Savar, near Dhaka, Bangladesh, Friday, May 10, 2013. Rescue workers in Bangladesh freed the woman buried for 17 days inside the wreckage of a garment factory building that collapsed, killing more than 1,000 people.**

(AP Photo)



# State Dept. sought to change Libya talking points

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Senior U.S. State Department officials pressed for changes in the talking points that U.N. Ambassador Susan Rice used after the deadly attack on the U.S. diplomatic mission in Libya last September, with senior officials asking that references to terror groups and

prior warnings be deleted, according to department emails.

The latest developments are certain to add fuel to the politically charged debate over the attack that killed Ambassador Chris Stevens and three other Americans when insurgents struck the U.S. mission

in two nighttime attacks. Republicans have complained that in the heat of the 2012 presidential campaign, the Obama administration was trying to conceal that the attack was the work of terrorists and not a protest over an anti-Islamic film that got out of hand. Such revelations just

before the election perhaps could have undercut President Barack Obama's record on fighting terrorism, including the killing of Osama bin Laden, one of his re-election strengths. Democrats have in turn accused Republicans of trying to capitalize on the attack to score political points. The White House has insisted that it made only a "stylistic" change to the intelligence agency talking points from which Rice suggested on five television talk shows that demonstrations over an anti-Islamic video devolved into the Benghazi attack.

"There's an ongoing effort to make something political out of this," White House spokesman Jay Carney said Friday of the disclosure of the emails, which the administration had provided to lawmakers. "The problem with that effort is that it's never been clear what it is they think they're accusing the administration of doing."

A scathing independent report in December found that "systematic failures

and leadership and management deficiencies at senior levels" of the State Department meant that security was "inadequate for Benghazi and grossly inadequate to deal with the attack that took place."

The report largely absolved then-Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, seen by many as the early Democratic favorite for president in 2016.

The State Department emails and other internal administration deliberations were summarized last month in an interim investigative report by Republicans on five House committees. New details about political concerns and the names of the administration officials who wrote the emails concerning the talking points emerged on Friday.

Before the presidential election, the administration said Rice's talking points were based on the best intelligence assessments available in the immediate aftermath of the attack. But the report and the new details Friday suggest a greater degree of White House and State Department involvement.

Following congressional briefings in the days after the attack, members of Congress asked the CIA for talking points to explain the assault, and the CIA under the direction of David Petraeus put together an assessment. It said Islamic extremists with ties to al-Qaida took part in the attack, cited reports linking the attack to the group Ansar al-Sharia, mentioned the experience of Libyan fighters and referred to previous warnings of threats in Benghazi. Numerous agencies had engaged in an email discussion about the talking points that would be provided to members of Congress and to Rice for their public comments. In one email, then-State Department spokeswoman Victoria Nuland worried about the effect of openly discussing earlier warnings about the dangers of Islamic extremists in Benghazi. □



White House Press Secretary Jay Carney speaks during his daily news briefing at the White House in Washington. Carney said Friday of the disclosure of the emails, "there's an ongoing effort to make something political out of this." (AP Photo/Jacquelyn Martin)

## Texas:

# Criminal probe launched into plant explosion

**ANGELA K. BROWN  
RAMIT MASTI  
Associated Press**

**WACO, Texas (AP)** — Texas law enforcement officials on Friday launched a criminal investigation into the massive fertilizer plant explosion that killed 14 people last month, after weeks of largely treating the blast as an industrial accident. The announcement came the same day federal agents said they found bomb-making materials belonging to a paramedic who helped evacuate residents the night of the explosion. Bryce Reed was arrested early Friday on a charge of possessing a destructive device, but law enforcement officials said they had not linked the charge to the April 17 fire and blast at West Fertilizer Co. "It is important to emphasize that at this point, no evidence has been un-

covered to indicate any connection to the events surrounding the fire and subsequent explosion ... and the arrest of Bryce Reed," the McLennan County Sheriff's Office said in a statement.

The Texas Department of Public Safety said earlier Friday that the agency had instructed the Texas Rangers and the sheriff's department to conduct a criminal probe into the explosion.

"This disaster has severely impacted the community of West, and we want to ensure that no stone goes unturned and that all the facts related to this incident are uncovered," DPS Director Steven McCraw said. McLennan County Sheriff Parnell McNamara said residents "must have confidence that this incident has been looked at from every angle and pro-

fessionally handled — they deserve nothing less."

The statement did not detail any further reasons for the criminal investigation and said no additional information would be released.

Reed, meanwhile, was in federal custody. A criminal complaint unsealed Friday afternoon said he was arrested after law enforcement officials were called earlier this week to a home and found bomb-making materials — including a galvanized metal pipe, canisters filled with fuses, a lighter, a digital scale and a variety of chemical powders. "After further investigation, it was determined that the resident had unwittingly taken possession of the components from Reed on April 26," says the complaint signed by Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives

special agent Douglas Kunze.

An ATF explosives specialist and a chemist examined the items and agreed the "combination of parts can be readily assembled into a destructive device," the complaint says.

Reed made an initial appearance in federal court Friday, but did not enter a plea. Officials have largely treated the West explosion as an industrial accident, though investigators still searching for the cause of a fire that preceded the blast have said they would treat the area as a crime scene until all possibilities were considered.

The State Fire Marshal's Office released a statement Friday saying it decided to continue pursuing a criminal probe because roughly 250 leads have developed and more than 400 people have been interviewed. □



# Obama makes new pitch on health care law

ROBERT PEAR  
PETER BAKER

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**WASHINGTON** – President Barack Obama made a public pitch for his health care law on Friday, emphasizing its benefits for women and promoting the opportunity for people to sign up for subsidized health insurance in five months.

The president's remarks, at a White House event tied to Mother's Day, followed weeks of criticism by impatient Democrats in Congress, who have been saying that Obama needs to do a better job of defending the law and educating the public on it.

Starting in October, individuals, families and small-business owners in every state will be able to shop for private insurance in on-line markets known as insurance exchanges. Coverage begins in January 2014, when most Americans will be required to

have insurance.

Administration officials said they expected that 7 million people would gain

lion by the law's fifth year.

The officials said they were focusing, in particular, on 2.7 million uninsured peo-

premiums could help pay for the care of less healthy subscribers.

More than 95 percent of

and one-third of them live in just three states, California, Florida and Texas.

In its efforts to enroll people in health insurance plans, the administration plans to use techniques reminiscent of political campaigns, focusing on specific neighborhoods and communities. And they said they knew exactly how many people they were looking for in specific places like Jefferson County, Colo.

In California, where the state will run its own insurance exchange, nearly half of the people eligible for insurance subsidies are Hispanic. In Florida, where the federal government will run the exchange, nearly half are Hispanic or black. Administration officials expressed confidence on Friday that the politics of health care would turn in their favor and that more Americans would support the law after they gained coverage and other tangible benefits. □



President Barack Obama speaks about the Affordable Care Act in the East Room of the White House in Washington, May 10, 2013. Obama made a public pitch for his health care law on Friday, emphasizing its benefits for women and promoting the opportunity for people to sign up for subsidized health insurance in five months. (Christopher Gregory/The New York Times)

coverage through the exchanges in 2014, with the number growing to 29 mil-

ple ages 18 to 35, because people in this group were generally healthy and their

the people in this cohort do not have chronic conditions, the officials said,

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## Relatives say Ariel Castro had a dark, violent streak

**MEGHAN BARR  
MIKE HOUSEHOLDER  
Associated Press  
CLEVELAND (AP)** —

In the days since Ariel Castro's arrest on charges of keeping three women imprisoned in his U.S. home for a decade, relatives and acquaintances have sketched a portrait of a man with a twisted sense of humor, a compulsion for secrecy and a towering, terrifying rage that led him to savagely beat, torment and control his common-law wife.

He was a "monster," they said.

Castro installed padlocks on every door leading into his dilapidated Ohio home. He kept the basement bolted shut. When relatives showed up at his front door, he made them wait for half an hour before emerging, and nobody was ever allowed past the living room.

"He had told me to stay in the kitchen," said Elida Marie Caraballo, Castro's niece, who was at his house about seven years ago with Castro's daughter Rosie. "I didn't know why."

Castro also kept a life-sized mannequin, with a mop-like wig and creepy eyes, propped against a wall of his house and liked to scare people with it. Sometimes he drove around town with it in the back seat of his car.

"He threatened me lots of times with it," said Castro's nephew, 26-year-old Angel Caraballo, who was

He was really controlling with females. You know, he didn't want no one to touch his daughters. He



This image shows the Cuyahoga County Corrections Center booking photo of Ariel Castro, 52.

(AP Photo/Cuyahoga County)

terrified of his uncle as a little boy and unnerved by him as an adult. "He would say: 'Act up again, you'll be in that back room with the mannequin.'"

The images are starkly at odds with the picture drawn by some neighbors, fellow musicians and others. They described the former school bus driver as an affable guy who played bass in a merengue band and rode motorcycles around town.

"You can talk to him and you think he's a nice guy," said Frank Caraballo, Castro's brother-in-law. "I think it was a female thing.

wanted to know everything his wife did."

Castro, 52, is being held in jail on \$8 million bail under a suicide watch, charged with rape and kidnapping. Prosecutors said they plan to bring additional counts, possibly including murder charges punishable by death for allegedly forcing at least one of his pregnant captives to miscarry several times by starving her and punching her in the belly. A DNA test confirmed Friday that he fathered the now 6-year-old girl born to one of the women while in captivity.

Public defender Kathleen Demetz, who said she is acting as Castro's adviser if needed until he is appointed a full-time attorney, said Friday that she can't speak

to his guilt or innocence. She has advised him not to give any news interviews that might jeopardize his case. Common-law wife Grimilda Figueroa left Castro years ago and died last year after a long illness. During their early years together, Castro worked in a plastics factory and treated his wife well, relatives said. But after their first child was born, they said, something snapped in him.

He beat Figueroa relentlessly, her relatives said. They said he pushed her down the stairs, fractured her ribs, broke her nose several times, cracked a tooth and dislocated both shoulders. He once shoved Figueroa into a cardboard box and closed the flaps over her head, they said. □



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# IRS apologizes to conservative groups on audits

**JONATHAN WEISMAN**

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**WASHINGTON** — The Internal Revenue Service apologized to Tea Party groups and other conservative organizations Friday for what it now says were overzealous audits of their applications for tax-exempt status. Lois Lerner, the director of the IRS division that oversees tax-exempt groups, acknowledged that the agency had singled out nonprofit applicants with the terms “Tea Party” or “patriots” in their titles in an effort to respond to a surge in applications for tax-exempt status between 2010 and 2012.

She insisted that the move was not driven by politics, but she added, “We made some mistakes; some peo-

ple didn’t use good judgment.”

“For that we’re apologetic,” she told reporters on a conference call.

Republicans seized on the acknowledgment, demanding more information and adding it to a growing list of missteps by the Obama administration that they say prove political interference, from hiding the terrorist origins of the attack in Benghazi, Libya, to the demand for disclosure of donors to conservative “super PACs.”

Sen. Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, the Republican leader, called for “a transparent, governmentwide review aimed at assuring the American people that these thuggish practices are not under way at the

IRS or elsewhere in the administration against anyone, regardless of their political views.”

The apology and the ensuing reaction could be a turning point for the IRS,

which has been caught between congressional Democrats pressing the agency to protect tax-exempt status more aggressively from overtly political groups and conservative groups claim-

But Lerner said the examinations of the Tea Party groups were not a response to such pressure. She portrayed it more as a bureaucratic mix-up. Between 2010 and 2012, applications for 501(c)(4) tax exemptions nearly doubled, to more than 2,400. As the agency has done in the past, it centralized the processing of the surge at its Cincinnati office, where about 300 were flagged for further examination. Staff members at that office singled out the terms “Tea Party” and “patriot,” she said, but not out of political bias; it was “just their shortcut.” Only about a quarter of the 300 cases flagged for scrutiny were Tea Party-related, she said, but she called the singling out of those groups “absolutely inappropriate and not the way we should do things.” Lerner said no disciplinary action had been taken against the low-level employees she said were responsible. She said, however, that policy changes had been made to ensure that similar episodes would not happen again. □



**Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Commissioner Douglas Shulman is sworn in on Capitol Hill in Washington.**

(AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)

ing harassment. Campaign finance watchdogs have said for years that 501(c)(4) tax exemptions were widely abused by conservative and liberal groups whose primary purpose is to influence elections, not to promote “social welfare,” as tax-exempt status mandates.



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<b>Cold fish platter</b> Smoked salmon, cocktail shrimp salad, peruvian seafood ceviche-tuna salad, black peppered tuna slices-wasabi salad, orange soy glaze.	<b>Main Course</b> Grapper and grouper fillet, served in oil saffron rage oven roasted chicken thighs served in Pico papaya coconut rum sauce, assorted seafood with fresh spinach pesto and marinated sauce, honey spiced sweet mashed potatoes, Caribbean saffron rice.
<b>Cold meat platter</b> Roasted marinated sirloin, beef brisket, perma ham with melon.	<b>Desserts</b> Cashew cake, mango coconut mousse, home made lemon vanilla cheesecake with white chocolate ganache, white chocolate grand marnier mousse, marinated strawberries, trifle, Andean quesadilla, chocolate brownie.
<b>Soup Station</b> Creamy lobster soup.	<b>Kids Corner</b> Penne pasta with creamy tomato sauce, diced ham and mozzarella cheese, chicken tenders, fried rice, mini pizzas, French fries.
<b>Onset Station</b> Cheese, mushroom, bacon, onion, ham, bell pepper.	
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## U.S. Financial Front:

# Treasury reports rare \$113 billion surplus in April

C. S. RUGABER

Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The U.S. Treasury said Friday that it took in a rare surplus of \$113 billion in April, the largest in five years.

Steady economic growth and higher tax rates have boosted the government's tax revenue, keeping this year's annual budget deficit on pace to be the smallest since 2008. A smaller deficit is also likely to give negotiators more time to work out a deal on raising the nation's borrowing limit.

Through the first seven months of the budget year, the deficit was \$488 billion. That's lower than last year's deficit of \$720 billion over the same period.

Even with the April surplus, the deficit for the full year will still be quite large: the CBO expects it will reach \$845 billion. That would be down from \$1.1 trillion in 2012 and the first annual deficit below \$1 trillion since 2008.

The federal deficit repre-

sents simply the annual difference between the government's spending and the tax revenues it takes in. Each deficit contributes to the national debt, which recently topped \$16 trillion. A smaller deficit is taking pressure off of negotiations to raise the federal borrowing limit. Lawmakers and

the Obama administration agreed to suspend the borrowing limit until May 18. But higher revenues and less spending could push the deadline off until the fall. One reason is revenue has risen 16 percent so far this budget year to \$1.6 trillion. That's the biggest tax haul for the October-April period

on record, a senior Treasury official said. The government will also benefit next month from a \$59.4 billion payment from mortgage giant Fannie Mae and a \$7 billion payment from Freddie Mac. The mortgage giants are profitable again and are paying dividends to the government in return

for the loans the received during the financial crisis. Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew said in an interview with CNBC Friday that in part because of Fannie's payment, the government's borrowing limit won't be reached until "at least after Labor Day" in early September. □

## Bernanke: Fed increasing financial monitoring

MARTIN CRUTSINGER

AP Economics Writer

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The

Federal Reserve has broadened its oversight beyond banks and now monitors a wide-range of financial institutions that could hasten another financial crisis, Chairman Ben Bernanke said Friday.

Bernanke said the Fed is still monitoring banks and other systematically important financial institutions. But it has widened its scope to include other important participants that could either trigger a crisis or make



Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke speaks during a banking conference in Chicago, Friday, May 10, 2013.

(AP Photo/Paul Beaty)

the system more vulnerable.

Chief among them is the so-called shadow banking system, which includes loans that are turned into securities and sold to investors. It was the breakdown of lending in the area of sub-prime mortgages that

helped trigger the 2008 crisis.

In a speech to a banking conference sponsored by the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, Bernanke said the Fed is also looking more closely at asset markets and the nonfinancial sector, which includes con-

sumers and businesses.

"Probably our best defense against complacency during extended periods of calm is careful monitoring for signs of emerging vulnerabilities," Bernanke said.

The 2008 financial crisis helped push the U.S. into the worst recession since the 1930s. Bernanke said the country is still suffering from the effects of the crisis and economic downturn.

"Our economy has not yet fully regained the jobs lost in the recession that accompanied the financial near collapse," Bernanke said. "And our financial system — despite significant healing over the past four years — continues to struggle with the economic, legal and reputational consequences of the events of 2007 to 2009." □



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# Russia defends continued missile sales to Syria

**KARIN LAUB  
M. SCISLOWSKA  
Associated Press**

**BEIRUT (AP)** — Russia defended its sales of anti-aircraft systems to the regime of Syrian President Bashar Assad, just days after joining forces with the U.S. for a new push to end Syria's civil war through negotiations. Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov avoided saying whether those sales included advanced S-300 batteries. Israel has asked Russia to cancel what it said was the imminent sale of the S-300 missiles, portrayed by U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry as destabilizing to Israel's security. The S-300s would make it harder for the U.S. and other countries to even consider intervening militarily or enforcing a no-fly zone in Syria. The U.S. has urged Russia — an Assad ally along with China, Iran and

the Lebanese Hezbollah militia — to cut off weapons supplies to Syria. Despite such disagreements, Russia and the U.S. decided this week to convene an international conference to bring representatives of the Assad regime and the opposition to the negotiating table. Such talks would aim at setting up a transitional government. No date has been set. The regime and the Syrian opposition have welcomed the idea, but with conditions. The opposition says talks can only begin once Assad and his aides have left. The regime says it will keep fighting the rebels, without saying at which stage it would be willing to halt its fire. The civil war, which began as a popular uprising against Assad in March 2011, has killed tens of thousands of Syrians and



Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, left, speaks at a news conference alongside counterparts Radek Sikorski of Poland and Guido Westerwelle, right, of Germany, in Warsaw, Poland, on Friday, May 10, 2013.

(AP Photo/Czarek Sokolowski)

displaced several million. The two sides are deadlocked, though the regime has scored recent military gains. On Friday, the U.N. commissioner for human rights, Navi Pillay, raised alarm over the western rebel-held town of Qusair, close to Lebanon, which has been besieged by Syrian troops for several weeks. Pillay said her team reported a major troop buildup in the area and noted that an increasing number of residents were being displaced. The commissioner said she fears atrocities if Qusair is overrun. Last week, regime forces were blamed for killing dozens of civilians in Baniyas and Bayda, two communities in western Syria. □

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Happy Mother's Day

## North Korea: US-South Korea summit prelude to war

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)

— Ahead of a nuclear-powered U.S. carrier's visit to South Korea, North Korea on Friday called this week's summit between the U.S. and South Korean presidents a prelude to war against Pyongyang. Yet it also said it was waiting "with patience" to see if Seoul changes its policies. The North described South Korean President Park Geun-hye's visit to Washington as a "despicable sycophantic trip to please her master."

The summit between the two allies is "a curtain-raiser to a dangerous war to invade" the North, an unnamed spokesman for the North's Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of Korea told the official Korean Central News Agen-

cy. The committee deals with cross-border relations, which are at a low point. At the same time, the North Korean spokesman said Pyongyang is "following the present authorities in South Korea with patience," arguing that it is not Pyongyang but Seoul that should change its stance.

North Korea unleashed a flurry of war threats last month, but there has been a lull of late. There are some tentative signs of interest in diplomacy, though Pyongyang has also kept up its criticism of both Seoul and Pyongyang. North Korea previously criticized the impending visit of the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier USS Nimitz. It and three other ships will arrive Saturday in the southeastern port city of Busan

in a show of U.S. commitment in the region, the U.S.-South Korean Combined Forces Command said in a statement. Wee Yong-sub, deputy spokesman for the South Korean Defense Ministry, said Friday that the carrier will participate in a variety of annual naval exercises, including search and rescue operations. North Korea's military earlier this week threatened the United States and South Korea over their joint naval



A protester wearing a mask of U.S. President Barack Obama, holds a model piece of U.S. aircraft carrier during a rally denouncing the joint naval drills between the United States and South Korea near the U.S. Embassy in Seoul, South Korea.

(AP Photo/Lee Jin-man)

drills taking place this week, including anti-submarine drills ending Friday in tense Yellow Sea waters. Pyongyang sees American use of nuclear assets in the region as aimed at toppling its government. Amid North Korean threats of nuclear war in March, Washington took the unusual step of announcing the participation in big U.S.-South Korean military drills of nuclear-capable B-52 and B-2 bombers, draw-

ing a furious response from Pyongyang. North Korea's Foreign Ministry said Friday in a statement that those drills posed the "biggest-ever nuclear threat" to Pyongyang, urging President Barack Obama to reverse what it called a hostile U.S. posture toward the North. Obama and Park met Tuesday in Washington and warned Pyongyang against nuclear provocations. □

ally of Tehran's mayor. So far, 366 names are registered. Saturday is the final day for applications. The hard-line Guardian Council, a constitutional watchdog, will vet the applicants before allowing them to run. The list of candidates will be announced later this month. □

Iran:

## Hundreds register for presidential race

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Four prominent Iranian politicians have joined hundreds of potential candidates who have applied to run in the June 14 presidential election. The race will pick a successor to President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, who is barred by the constitution from seeking a third term,

and offer a critical test for reformists battered after years of crackdowns. The four who submitted their candidacies on Friday are: liberal-leaning former vice president Mohammad Reza Aref; former Revolutionary Guard chief Mohsen Rezaei; lawmaker Ali Reza Zakani and Gholam Ali Haddad Adel, an

ally of Tehran's mayor. So far, 366 names are registered. Saturday is the final day for applications. The hard-line Guardian Council, a constitutional watchdog, will vet the applicants before allowing them to run. The list of candidates will be announced later this month. □

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# Pakistan set for historic, unpredictable election



A Pakistani girl runs past a car decorated with an election banner showing Mohammed Abdullah, a candidate of a pro-Taliban religious group Jamiat-e-Ulema Islam (JUI-F) in a poor neighborhood on the outskirts of Islamabad, Pakistan, Friday, May 10, 2013.

(AP Photo/Muhammed Muheisen)

**SEBASTIAN ABBOT**  
Associated Press

**ISLAMABAD (AP)** — Despite a bloody campaign marred by Taliban attacks, Pakistan holds historic elections Saturday pitting a former cricket star against a two-time prime minister once exiled by the army and an incumbent blamed for power blackouts and in-

flation. The vote marks the first time in Pakistan's 65-year history that a civilian government has completed its full term and handed over power in democratic elections. Previous governments have been toppled by military coups or sacked by presidents allied with the powerful army. Deadly violence struck again Friday,

with a pair of bombings against election offices in northwest Pakistan that killed three people and a shooting that killed a candidate in the southern city of Karachi. More than 130 people have been killed in the run-up to the vote, mostly secular party candidates and workers. Most attacks have been traced to Taliban militants, who have vowed to disrupt a democratic process they say runs

counter to Islam.

The vote is being watched closely by Washington since the U.S. relies on the nuclear-armed country of 180 million people for help in fighting Islamic militants and negotiating an end to the war in neighboring Afghanistan.

The rise of former cricket star Imran Khan, who has almost mythical status in Pakistan, has challenged the dominance of the

country's two main political parties, making the outcome of the election very hard to call. "I think it is the most unpredictable election Pakistan has ever had," said Moeed Yusuf, South Asia adviser at the United States Institute of Peace. "The two-party dominance has broken down, and now you have a real third force challenging these parties."

Continued on Page 27

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## Yen in focus as G-7 discusses nurturing recovery

MARTIN BENEDYK  
PAN PYLAS

Associated Press

AYLESBURY, England (AP)

— Financial leaders from the world's top seven developed economies are gathering in the U.K. to discuss how to shore up the global recovery just as the stimulus measures of one its members, Japan, has caused its currency to take a dramatic slide.

Supporting the global economy and the role of central banks are set to be the key points of this weekend's discussions among financial ministers and officials from the Group of Seven countries — the U.S.,

Germany, Japan, the U.K., Italy, France and Canada. The yen and the Bank of Japan's super-aggressive monetary policy will also likely feature, following the dollar's breach of the 100 yen mark for the first time in four years.

Over the past few months, the yen has dropped sharply as the new government in Japan tries to bring an end to the country's two-decade stagnation.

Japan's central bank has been pumping money into the economy in the hope of stoking inflation — the country has suffered from falling prices for much of the past 20 years, which

has hit company profits and halted growth. One consequence of the new inflationary approach has been the sharp fall in the value of the yen against other countries' currencies. So far there's been a certain amount of support for Japan's economic gamble — even though the yen's decline makes the exports of other countries more expensive.

That's led many in the markets to conclude that the Japanese monetary authorities are actually targeting the exchange rate, a charge officials in the country have consistently denied. Nevertheless,



Mark Carney, Governor of the Bank of Canada, second, right, sits next to Jacob Lew, U.S. Treasury Secretary, and Jim Flaherty, Canadian Finance Minister, right, at the start of the G7 finance ministers and central bank governors meeting, in Aylesbury, England, Friday, May 10, 2013.

(AP Photo/Alastair Grant Pool)

talk of a currency war — where countries use their exchange rates as an economic weapon — has not died down. If other countries respond to the falling yen by debasing their currencies, Japan will be back at square one and the world economy could suffer. Sharp fluctuations in the value of currencies can hurt business confidence and investment. Ministers meeting this weekend will be keen to avoid any developments that could spark a currency war.

In an interview with CNBC, U.S. Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew said he was monitoring developments and that Japan had to play by the rules it has signed up to. However, as long as Japan doesn't directly target its exchange rate and stays "within the bounds" of international agreements, then Lew said the country has every right to deal with its underlying and long-standing economic problems. Few in the markets expect much change in

the G-7's line on currencies from its last statement in February. "Any remarks are set to remain along the lines of the well-worn mantra that markets should set exchange rates," said Jane Foley, senior currency strategist at Rabobank International.

Olli Rehn, the top monetary affairs official of the European Commission, the European Union's executive arm, said it's important that "there is no talk about currency wars." Instead, he said discussions should center on "how better to coordinate economic and monetary policies to support growth in the world economy." The discussions through Saturday are intended to focus on making sure the global economy gains traction. In recent weeks, markets have calmed down amid signs of improvement in the U.S. economy, a seeming calming in Europe's debt crisis as well as confidence over Japan's economic journey. □

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**Official opening:  
Agua Bendita swimwear makes a  
splash at the Renaissance Mall!**



was also launched, which is a sizzling new collection for the season. The designers of the bathing suits are Catalina Alvarez and Mariana Hinstroza, whom are also the owners of the store. The sexy Agua Bendita line of swimwear is well known in Colombia, Venezuela, Mexico and the USA, and is now making a huge splash on Aruba at the Renaissance Mall; so dive in! □



**ORANJESTAD** – The official opening of Agua Bendita took place recently at the Renaissance Mall to the excitement of beach bunnies and fashionistas all across Aruba! Here sexy divas can pick up the hottest new fashions in bathing suits of exceptional quality and super-glamour! During the official grand opening the "Hunter" line of swimwear





**For the Month of May:**

## Artist Kimberly "Zsa Zsa" Wever is the Caribbean Queen!

**PALM BEACH** – Caribbean Queen at the Palm Beach Plaza Mall is proud to introduce its Caribbean Queen for the month of May, Kimberly "Zsa Zsa" Wever, a local artisan who lives and creates here.

Kimberly's work is prominently on display at the store showcasing her beautiful and glamorous jewelry. Kimberly "Zsa Zsa" Wever, born and raised in Aruba, founded her own business at the age of 21 when she launched ZSAZSA, a stunning line of hand-crafted jewelry, creating seasonal collections and appealing to both visitors and locals. On Aruba, Kimberly is best known as "the ZSAZSA girl."

With the encouragement and support of her parents, Kimberly's journey began

in May of 2012 when she started learning all there was to know about jewelry making and came across a technique she liked, namely wire-wrapping. After she mastered the basics, her imagination took off like wildfire, and she began fashioning attractive patterns of designs, marketing them, selling them, and running her own business. After all, she was born into an entrepreneurial family and was just following in its footsteps.

ZSAZSA's jewelry pieces are best defined as resort chic and wearable fun, suitable for both day and night, and for both dress-up and dress-down occasions. ZSAZSA aims to create an elegant and comfortable feel for those who wear the jewelry. Kimberly reports



she has been a jewelry aficionado herself, since the moment she was born. She now makes everything she wears and wears everything she makes, and her jewelry certainly stands out in a crowd!

ZSAZSA's designs start with a drawing, then Kimberly makes the prototype and orders the materials. She is

forever passionate about the quality of the materials and the upgraded finish, utilizing 14K-gold-filled and sterling-silver wires, Swarovski crystals, freshwater pearls, and semi-precious gemstones such as quartz, turquoise, and amethyst.

When not making jewelry, Kimberly goes to school,

where her friends provide her with feedback, support, and compliments on a daily basis.

The collection for Caribbean Queen is a combination of the past spring collections and the new summer collection, featuring different wire-wrapping techniques and materials. Enjoy her jewelry throughout the month of May at Caribbean Queen, Palm Beach Plaza Mall.

When you purchase Kimberly's jewelry you are in fact helping nurture other budding artists here.

The stores run a Tikkun Olam, a repair of the world program and dedicates part of the sale proceeds to not-for-profit local foundations who encourage artistry and artistic expression. □

## Laurie Campbell lands a Straight Flush at the Casino at the Radisson!

**PALM BEACH** – While enjoying the action around the Let It Ride table at the Casino at the Radisson, Laurie, a visitor from Plymouth MA,

was dealt a Straight Flush, chased by a \$5,000 jackpot.

The spades just lined up, she explained, 6-7-8-9-10

and the rest is history, as Casino Manager Michael Croes, joined her for a celebration. The Casino at the Radisson is gearing up



for a high stake Mother's Day bingo on May 12. While bingo is played every Saturday and Sunday, at 1pm, \$6 per card, with more than \$1,000 in prizes, in honor of the upcoming Mother's Day, prize money has doubled and the anticipation for that special day is palpable at the casino. Other special casino features included double points during certain hours every day, Mystery Jack-

pots which can hit on any slot machine at any unexpected time, even without a winning combination, Free Play Fever, Happy Hour and Ladies Night on Sunday, where the first 100 ladies who present themselves at the desk with a Winners' Circle card, receive \$15 in Free Play. Pictured here Laurie Campbell and Michael Croes, as Laurie hold up her winning hand!! □

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# A memorable proposal in Aruba aboard the Jolly Pirates!



**PALM BEACH** - The Jolly Pirates team is excited to share the following letter of thanks they received recently from another delighted family, whose marriage proposal was made most memorable aboard the Jolly Pirates on Aruba!

"Dear Fellow Aruba Lovers,  
We are all so grateful for everything that the JOLLY PIRATES crew did for us to make our children's wed-

ding proposal so memorable. The Jolly Pirate crew did a fabulous job and everything worked out perfectly for the surprise wedding proposal aboard the beautiful ship! Thank you, thank you! Thank you to the Jolly Pirates Crew! Our son Jim Radesic and our future daughter in-law, Katie Bukowski are both from Cleveland, Ohio. After dating for nine years, our son thought a family vacation would be the ideal

way to propose to his lovely girlfriend. This was their first trip to Aruba and they were surrounded by fourteen family members and friends cheering them on during the special marriage proposal made aboard the Jolly Pirates while anchored in the picturesque setting of Boca Catalina. The couple stayed at the Divi Dutch Village and both have agreed that the best thing they enjoyed in Aru-

ba was their memorable afternoon on the Jolly Pirate ship and not only because they became engaged....but because the crew made it so much fun! Katie and Jim also enjoyed long walks along the most beautiful beaches, gorgeous romantic sunsets and of course what Aruba is known for their friendly people. My son considered their most romantic dinner to be the night they

dined at Hadicurari Restaurant located near the Jolly Pirates docking area. Wedding plans are in the making for the fall of 2014. Perhaps the couple will enjoy their honeymoon in Aruba and certainly we all plan to return to Aruba each year. Once again...MANY THANKS!  
See you next year!  
-Jeanine Radesic, Joyce Haynes and Family"

**• MOTHER'S DAY MENU •**

**APPETIZERS**  
**Aruban Fish Chowder Soup**  
 Creamy fish soup, pernod, garlic croutons  
 or  
**Caribbean Caprese Salad & Mango Caviar**  
 Garden greens, buffalo cheese, mango caviar, pesto vinaigrette, croutons, cherry tomatoes

**"Amuse"**  
**A shot of Creamy Tomato Soup and Basil**

**ENTREE**  
**Pesto Chicken Breast & Mushroom Risotto**  
 Grilled chicken breast, mushroom risotto, pesto sauce and parmesan foam  
 or  
**Land and Sea**  
 4 Oz filet of beef tenderloin + grilled shrimps + snow peas, Mashed potato & Rosemary sauce  
 or  
**Fresh Grouper Fillet and Aromatic fresh Herb Sauce**  
 Oven roast fresh grouper, baby vegetable, aromatic fresh herb sauce

**DESSERT**  
**Coffee Crème Brulee**  
 or  
**Vanilla Ice Cream & Apple Cardamom Stew**  
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# Polesitters ease strongly into a fun-filled, happy weekend



**ORANJESTAD** - Amused and kept awake by a long line of VIP-polesitters, the three heroic young men and one woman who stepped onto their poles Thursday morning at Café the Plaza are now ready to ease into a fun-filled, happy weekend. Raymond, Shurman, Lies-

beth and Nathan are still going strong – their dips will start coming on Saturday night and, if overcome, on Sunday. The four sitters have received tremendous support from VIPs, among them former Minister of Justice Rudy Croes, Miss Aruba, De Schakel's Jan Pieter



Rijnsaart, Zuleyka Willems, Desiree Croes and Lucia White, whose AWG. 1.500,- - sponsoring is a wonderful boost for the great people of the Sonrisa 'Trampolin pa Trabao' foundation. This foundation hopes to raise money to provide a train-

ing facility for catering, a café, a kitchen and a sheltered workshop for its mentally challenged clients in the hope that they will thus be better equipped for a job in the community.

The volunteers of Trampolin pa Trabao are selling Mother's Day gifts, made by the Sonrisa clients; they also sell raffle tickets and there is a fun photo booth. Café the Plaza takes care of nightly musical entertainment: on Thursday evening Simmer Down was a huge hit, while Friday night saw popular Jemm on stage. On Saturday night Acoustic Soul



will keep the sitters awake. Sunday, when the countdown to a record-breaking 88 hours starts, it will be Tsunami that will rock the Renaissance Marketplace.

During the weekend, you may expect well-known Maikel Perez, Jan Hein Poelmann, John Bos (Old Dutch Café), lawyer Andin Bikker, 080's Jaap, Bingo's Frans de Rooy, radio personality Darren van Omeren and Harry Koeman of AWD to earn quite a bit of extra money for the charity through their sponsors. Photos show the moment when the four hours of VIP polesitter Rudy Croes are up and Jan Pieter Rijnsaart takes over amidst applause and cheers. □

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Serena Williams from the U.S. celebrates a point against Anabel Medina from Spain during the Madrid Open tennis tournament, in Madrid Friday, May 10, 2013.

Associated Press

## Nadal rallies past Ferrer; Serena wins in Madrid

JOSEPH WILSON  
Associated Press

**MADRID (AP)** — Rafael Nadal fought back to beat David Ferrer 4-6, 7-6 (3), 6-0 in Friday's quarterfinals of the Madrid Open, maintaining his bid to reach a seventh straight final since returning from a knee injury.

In a meeting of Spain's top ranked players, Ferrer's baseline game on the outdoor red clay almost proved too much for the fifth-seeded Nadal.

But Nadal held on to force a third set and won six straight games to improve his career record against Ferrer to 18-4, avoiding an early exit like Novak Djokovic and Roger Federer earlier this week.

"I think (I) have to be very happy for making it to the semifinals, and even more so after how the match has gone," said Nadal, who won in 2005 and 2010. "I could have been very close to thinking about the next tournament right now."

Continued on Page 18

# POWER SERGE



## Sergio Garcia finishes a stroke ahead of Tiger Woods

Sergio Garcia, of Spain, pumps his fist after making birdie on the eighth green during the second round of The Players championship golf tournament at TPC Sawgrass, Friday, May 10, 2013, in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla. Garcia shot 7-under par for the round, for a two-day score of 11-under par.

Associated Press  
Page 20



## Madrid

Continued from Page 17

Third-seeded Andy Murray never found his stride and lost 7-6 (3), 6-4 to last year's runner-up Tomas Berdych. In the women's event, top-ranked Serena Williams struggled past Anabel Medina Garrigues 6-3, 0-6, 7-5, and second-seeded Maria Sharapova joined her in the semifinals after easing by Kaia Kanepi of Estonia 6-2, 6-4.

Nadal has won four titles this year since being sidelined for several months with tendinitis in his left knee. Even though he has said his leg still bothers him, Nadal failed to use it as an excuse.

"David is a fantastic player," he said. "When you play up and down against players like David, you know, it's very difficult to win."

Nadal will play 113th-ranked Pablo Andujar of Spain, who ousted Kei Nishikori 6-3, 7-5 the day after

the Japanese player upset Federer.

The fourth-seeded Ferrer's ability to keep points alive with error-free long rallies gave him an early lead. He used his speed to break twice in the second set, sealing both with approach shots at the net for a 4-2 advantage.

Nadal then dug in and broke twice to win the next three games.

Ferrer had an opportunity to earn two match points when leading 5-4 and 30-15. He had plenty of time to slam a floating ball into an open court but instead fired at his opponent's feet, allowing Nadal to scoop it over the net.

"It was a tightly contested match," Nadal said. "David deserved it more than I did to reach the semifinals, but that is sport. I was lucky to somehow save that ball down 15-30."

"After missing his chance David fell apart a little. He lowered his intensity in the third set and I didn't have to do as much."



Rafael Nadal from Spain returns the ball to David Ferrer from Spain during the Madrid Open tennis tournament, in Madrid, Friday, May 10, 2013.

Associated Press

Nadal was steadier in his shot-making to level in the tiebreaker, and he only got better in the third set. After placing a perfect lob near the baselines, he wowed the Caja Magica crowd by nailing a forehand win-

ner while almost stumbling to the ground en route to building an insurmountable 4-0 lead.

Berdych jumped out to a 5-1 lead in the first set tiebreaker before closing it out when Murray landed a

backhand just wide.

Murray, who won the tournament on hard courts in 2008, fell to the Czech in just over two hours after Berdych's deep drive forced him to miss for a last time.

Berdych will play the winner of the Friday's late match between Jo-Wilfried Tsonga and Stanislas Wawrinka.

Williams appeared to be worn down after being blanked in the second set and falling behind 4-2 in the decider. But the defending champion rallied to break the Spaniard's serve twice.

"I just wasn't really into it, my feet weren't moving," Williams said of the second set. "To change it I got up early (before the third set) and did some high knees, some stretching, anything I could to get my intensity back up to where it needs to be."

Williams will face Sara Errani of Italy, who downed Ekaterina Makarova 6-4, 6-3. □



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## NHL Playoff Capsules

### Blackhawks, Senators move into 2nd playoff round

The Associated Press

**CHICAGO (AP)** — Marian Hossa scored twice to back a strong effort by goalie Corey Crawford, and the Chicago Blackhawks beat the Minnesota Wild 5-1 Thursday night to win their first-round playoff series 4-1. Chicago is moving on in the postseason for the first time since the championship run in 2010, and will face either San Jose or Detroit if the Red Wings get past Anaheim. The way the Blackhawks have dominated, anything less than a trip to the Stanley Cup finals would be a disappointment for them. They got off to a record start and captured the Presidents' Trophy for finishing with more points than any other team.

Now, they're eyeing the biggest prize of all. And after bowing out in the first round the past two years, they sure are looking good. Senators 6, Canadiens 1  
**MONTREAL (AP)** — Craig Anderson made 33 saves and Cory Conacher scored twice on a shaky Peter Budaj as the Senators advanced to the second round. Ottawa took the best-of-seven series 4-1 and put a punctuation mark on its dominance in moving on for the first time since 2007, when the Senators lost in the Stanley Cup finals to the Anaheim Ducks. The victory gives Ottawa time to rest up and heal bruises from the physical series before the conference semifinals be-

gin next week. Zack Smith, Kyle Turris, Daniel Alfredsson and Erik Condra also scored for Ottawa, underdogs as the seventh seed in the East, but bolstered down the stretch by the return of top players on defense Erik Karlsson and Jared Cowan.

P.K. Subban scored for injury-struck Montreal.

Penguins 4, Islanders 0  
**PITTSBURGH (AP)** — Tomas Vokoun stopped 31 shots in his first playoff start in six years and the Penguins took a 3-2 lead in their first-round series.

Sidney Crosby, Tyler Kennedy and Douglas Murray scored during a seven-minute stretch in the second period and Kris Letang added a power-play goal in the third as Pittsburgh moved a step closer to advancing to the second round. Game 6 is Saturday in New York. Evgeni Nabokov made 23 saves for the Islanders, but also gave up breakaway goals to Crosby and Kennedy and botched a lazy wrist shot from Murray that gave the Penguins all the offense they would need.

Vokoun was thrust into the lineup after Pittsburgh coach Dan Bylsma benched Marc-Andre Fleury, who had started 79 straight postseason games but struggled in a 6-4 loss in Game 4. The 36-year-old Vokoun didn't look intimidated by the stage as the Penguins restored a little order to a wide-open series. □



Chicago Blackhawks' Marian Hossa, right, celebrates after scoring his second goal as Minnesota Wild goalie Josh Harding (37) and Jared Spurgeon (46) react during the second period of Game 5 of an NHL hockey Stanley Cup first-round playoff series in Chicago, Thursday, May 9, 2013.

Associated Press

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# Garcia goes 1 up on Tiger at Players Championship

DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Florida (AP) — Sergio Garcia

needed all of his hot putts to take a one-shot lead over Tiger Woods at The Players Championship, shooting a 7-under 65 in Friday's second round.

Garcia didn't miss a fairway and putted for birdie on every hole on the back nine and wasn't gaining any ground.

That changed on the front nine when he made seven straight putts — five of them from about 15 feet or longer — to race by Woods and into the lead.

"When you start going like that, it feels great," said Garcia, who was at 11-under 133. "Everything seems kind of clearer in your head. You seem to see the break. You seem to feel like everything is a little bit easier, a little bit smoother, and you hit the putt and it manages to go in."

"If it was easy, we would have plenty of those, but it's not," he said. "Enjoy them while you have them."



**Tiger Woods pumps his fist as his ball goes in the cup for birdie on the ninth hole during the second round of The Players championship golf tournament at TPC Sawgrass, Friday, May 10, 2013 in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla. Woods shot 5-under-par for the round, for a two-day score of 10-under par.**  
Associated Press

Woods looks like he's having a good time on the TPC Sawgrass course that has vexed him more than any other on the PGA Tour, and he could be the greater threat on the weekend. Already a three-time winner this year on tour, Woods

has rarely put himself in trouble and had his second straight 67.

Woods was at 134, his best 36-hole total by six shots at this tournament, including the year he won.

He tied for the lead with a 5-wood into 20 feet for

eagle on the par-5 second hole, and then took the lead alone with a short birdie on the fourth. But it didn't last long. Garcia, playing in the group ahead of him, ran off five straight birdies, finishing that stretch with a 20-foot putt on No. 5 and a

25-footer on No. 6.

Woods and Garcia have played together on big stages — Bethpage Black, Royal Liverpool — with a big edge for Woods.

They first were linked when the Spaniard was 19 and gave Woods all he could handle at Medinah in the 1999 PGA Championship. They were paired in the final round of the 2002 U.S. Open and 2006 British Open, both won by Woods.

Asked about the possibility of playing with Woods on Saturday, Garcia said he wouldn't see it as anything but another round of golf.

"I don't have to measure myself against anybody," Garcia said.

"I know what I want to try to do, and any given day I can shoot a round like this and any other day he can shoot a good round and beat me."

Like we always say, it's not a sprint, it's a marathon. So there are going to be good days and not so good days, so just got to enjoy the good ones as much as possible. □

## NL Capsules

# Lagares catch, Baxter hit lead Mets over Pirates



**New York Mets right fielder Juan Lagares catches a deep fly ball hit by Pittsburgh Pirates' Andrew McCutchen to end the top of the ninth inning of a baseball game at Citi Field, Thursday, May 9, 2013, in New York. The Mets won 3-2.**

Associated Press

The Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Rookie center fielder Juan Lagar-

es robbed Andrew McCutchen of a go-ahead hit in the top of the ninth inning, then pinch-hitter Mike Baxter's single in the bottom half sent the New York Mets over the Pittsburgh Pirates 3-2 Thursday night.

Baxter delivered his second winning pinch-hit in three days. His 10th-inning single Tuesday beat the Chicago White Sox.

This time, Baxter batted for Lagares and won it.

Lagares was equally responsible for the victory. With a runner on first and two outs, McCutchen hit a loud shot into faraway right-center field. Lagares glided back, perfectly timed his leap and plucked the ball at the top of the fence as he rammed into the padded wall.

Marlon Byrd singled to start the Mets' ninth off Jason Grilli (0-1). Andrew Brown sacrificed and Baxter fol-

lowed by grounding a single up the middle, easily scoring Byrd.

Bobby Parnell (4-0) pitched the ninth. The Pirates have lost four of five.

Pedro Alvarez hit a solo home run in the eighth off Mets reliever LaTroy Hawkins that made it 2-all.

BRAVES 6, GIANTS 3

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Brian McCann hit a two-run homer and an RBI single in his third game this season since coming off the disabled list, and Atlanta beat San Francisco to begin a four-game series between NL division leaders.

Julio Teheran (2-0) pitched seven efficient innings after his last scheduled outing was rained out Saturday. Craig Kimbrel earned his 100th career save, becoming the second-youngest pitcher to do so.

Buster Posey hit a two-run homer and an RBI single,

but the Giants were done in by the fifth inning when the Braves batted around. San Francisco (20-15) fell into a first-place tie in the NL West with Arizona.

Ryan Vogelsong (1-3) gave up six runs and seven hits in 4 1-3 innings. He is winless in five starts.

DIAMONDBACKS 2, PHILLIES 1

PHOENIX (AP) — Patrick Corbin won his fifth consecutive decision to start the season and drove in a run to help Arizona beat Philadelphia.

Corbin (5-0) scattered four hits over 6 1-3 innings and allowed one run to lower his ERA to 1.75. The left-hander became the first pitcher to throw at least six innings and allow two or fewer runs in his first seven starts of a season since Ubaldo Jimenez had 12 straight such outings for Colorado in 2010.

Heath Bell threw seven pitches in a scoreless ninth for his third save in three nights since taking over for injured closer J.J. Putz.

Cole Hamels (1-5) gave up two runs on six hits and five walks in six innings.

Phillies manager Charlie Manuel set a franchise record with his 1,332nd game as the club's skipper. The 69-year-old Manuel, the 51st manager in the team's 123-year history, passed Gene Mauch, who managed Philadelphia from 1960-68.

INTERLEAGUE

NATIONALS 5, TIGERS 4

WASHINGTON (AP) — Ryan Mattheus, Drew Storen and Rafael Soriano combined for shutout relief after Dan Haren nearly squandered a four-run lead, and Washington beat Detroit to complete a two-game sweep of the AL champions. □





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# Hansen wins Giro stage; Bradley Wiggins struggles

**PESCARA, Italy (AP)** — Australian rider Adam Hansen won the hilly and rainy seventh stage of the Giro d'Italia with a solo breakaway, and Benat Intxausti of Spain took the overall lead on Friday.

Tour de France champion Bradley Wiggins had trouble negotiating the slippery roads on a descent shortly before the finish. He fell at one point but did not appear to suffer a major injury. Still, he lost more than a minute to the other contenders. Hansen, who rides for Lotto Belisol, clocked more than 4 1/2 hours over the 176-kilometer (109-mile) leg from San Salvo to Pescara.

Enrico Battaglin of Italy finished 1:07 behind in second place, and 2007 winner Danilo Di Luca of Italy was third with the same time. Intxausti holds a 5-second lead over top contender Vincenzo Nibali, with defending champion Ryder Hesjedal 8 seconds back in third.

Cadel Evans, the 2011 Tour de France winner, moved up to sixth overall, 16 seconds back.

Wiggins dropped from sixth to 23rd overall, 1:32 behind, although he could make time in Stage 8 on Saturday — a 55-kilometer (34-mile) individual time trial from Gabicce Mare to Saltara where he'll be among the favorites.

"I think Wiggins understands now that the Giro is not the Tour," said 2000 Giro winner Stefano Garzelli, the oldest rider in this year's race at 39. "All the stages are difficult."

Hansen broke away from the main pack with several other riders 30 kilometers (20 miles) into the stage. He then attacked his last breakaway rival, Emanuele Sella of Italy, with 20 kilometers (12 miles) to go. Hansen was previously known purely as a reliable support rider. He was the only man last year to complete all three of cycling's Grand Tours — the Giro, Tour and Spanish Vuelta.

"Our team tactics were to get in a breakaway, and

today was the day we thought best to be in the break," Hansen said. "This is the biggest win of my life." Sella also fell twice, and Nibali slid nearly 10 meters (yards) across the road during a downhill attack. He also appeared to avoid serious injury. Many other



Adam Hansen, of Australia, celebrates as he wins the seventh stage of the Giro d'Italia, Tour of Italy cycling race, from Marina San Salvo to Pescara, Friday, May 10, 2013.

Associated Press

riders also fell.

"I wanted to earn some time before tomorrow's time trial," Nibali said. "It

would have been better without the fall."

The race ends May 26 in Brescia. □



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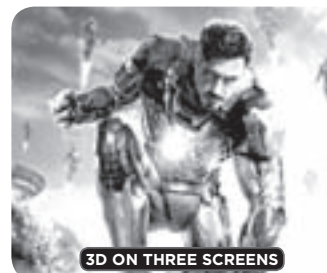


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NICOLAS CAGE | EMMA STONE

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## Turn your Smartphone into a workout buddy

**KIT EATON**

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Summer is coming at last. Like me, you may be thinking that a few improvements to your fitness and physique might be in order before you hit the beach. It's also possible that, like me, you find it hard to motivate yourself to exercise or to head to the gym, and you don't like the idea of a personal trainer. Time for an app, in other words, and there are many out there to help us get in shape.

My favorite is Nike Training Club, free on Android and iOS. It has a simple, clean interface, so you can exercise without distractions. The home page has a summary of your training performance and a menu bar that takes you to pages with more details on your previous workouts. There's also a rewards page where you can earn digital badg-

es for completing workouts. To start exercising, you click the Get Workouts button, or pick Quick Start and choose the workout you did previously. Workouts vary, depending on whether you want a leaner body or a stronger one, for example. When you choose an activity the app inquires about your experience level (beginner to expert) and offers a list of different exercise styles. As an example, the beginner level's Get Lean workout has a 30-minute "sweat and shape" and a harder 45-minute "crunch and burn" workout.

Before you begin, the app lists the activities it will ask you to do. You can click on these to get step-by-step advice, with images, to help you do them correctly. Or you can watch a professional demonstrate the moves in a short video.



An undated handout photo of the Nike Training Club app. Nike Training is among a group of apps that can help you get in shape.

(Handout via The New York Times)

When you begin a workout, the app gives you a spoken summary of what's ahead, and then starts a large on-screen clock. While you're exercising, the app speaks aloud at key moments to give you tips or let you know how much time remains in the exercise. In the Straight Leg Kicks exercise, it reminds you to "roll up on the ball of the standing foot when you kick." You can exercise to this voice alone, or listen to music from your device library with the coaching voice superimposed over your music.

The app has a huge list of different workouts and includes examples from famous athletes like Gabby Douglas. Its one drawback may be that it requires you to sign up for a free Nike account or connect through your Facebook account. □

## Gene test may help guide prostate cancer treatment

**MARILYNN MARCHIONE**  
**AP Chief Medical Writer**

A new genetic test to gauge the aggressiveness of prostate cancer may help tens of thousands of men each year decide whether they need to treat their cancer right away or can safely monitor it.

The new test, which goes on sale Wednesday, joins another one that recently came on the market. Both analyze multiple genes in a biopsy sample and give a score for aggressiveness, similar to tests used now for certain breast and colon cancers.

Doctors say tests like these have the potential to curb

a major problem in cancer care — overtreatment. Prostate tumors usually grow so slowly they will never threaten a man's life, but some prove fatal and there is no reliable way now to tell which ones will. Treatment with surgery, radiation or hormone blockers isn't needed in most cases and can cause impotence or incontinence, yet most men are afraid to skip it.

"We're not giving patients enough information to make their decision," said Dr. Peter Carroll, chairman of urology at the University of California, San Francisco. "You can shop for a toaster" better than for prostate

treatment, he said.

A study he led of the newest test — the Oncotype DX Genomic Prostate Score — is set for discussion Wednesday at an American Urological Association meeting in San Diego.

The results suggest the test could triple the number of men thought to be at such low risk for aggressive disease that monitoring is a clearly safe option. Conversely, the test also suggested some tumors were more aggressive than doctors had believed.

Independent experts say such a test is desperately needed but that it's unclear how much information this

one adds or whether it will be enough to persuade men with low-risk tumors to forgo treatment, and treat it only if it gets worse. Only 10 percent who are candidates for monitoring choose it now.

"The question is, what's the magnitude of difference that would change the patient's mind?" said Dr. Bruce Roth, a cancer specialist at Washington University in St. Louis. One man may view a 15 percent chance that his tumor is aggressive as low risk "but someone else might say, 'Oh my God, let's set the surgery up tomorrow,'" he said. "I don't think it's a slam dunk."

Also unknown: Will insurers pay for the expensive test without evidence it leads to better care or saves lives?

The newest test was developed by Genomic Health Inc., which has sold a similar one for breast cancer since 2004. Doctors at first were leery of it until studies in more groups of women proved its value, and the same may happen with the prostate test, said Dr. Len Lichtenfeld, the American Cancer Society's deputy chief medical officer.

The company will charge \$3,820 for the prostate test and says it can save money by avoiding costlier, unnecessary treatment. □





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## Spacewalk planned to fix space station leak

**SETH BORENSTEIN**  
AP Science Writer

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Two astronauts will make a precedent-setting spacewalk Saturday to try to fix an ammonia leak in the International Space Station's power system. Spacewalks are rarely done on such short notice, but the U.S. space agency says the six-member crew is not in danger.

The ammonia leak was discovered Thursday and forced the shutdown of one of eight solar panels that power the station, but the outpost can operate fine with only seven, NASA spokesman Kelly Humphries said.

One of the spacewalk veterans scheduled for the job was due to return to Earth on Monday, one reason NASA wants to tackle the problem this weekend, Humphries said.

Station Commander Chris Hadfield of Canada told NASA flight controllers Friday that the crew is completely ready for the spacewalk.

"I think it's really smart the way we're all proceeding here," Hadfield radioed down to Earth. "It's the right thing to do."

Hadfield tweeted that the crew was working "like clockwork" and said the two U.S. astronauts, Chris Cassidy and Tom Marshburn, were already getting their spacesuits ready, adding "Cool!"

The leak is in one of the radiator lines that chill the power systems. NASA spokesman Rob Navias said the line was expect-

ed to run out of ammonia coolant Friday. Power has been rerouted and is operating normally, he said.

The repair is what NASA calls one of the "Big 12" types of emergency repair work that all spacewalking astronauts train for in advance, Navias said.

NASA suspects the leak might be on the far left truss of the station from a pump box, which will be swapped out with a nearby spare during the spacewalk.

In 2009, Cassidy and Marshburn flew to the space station on the shuttle Endeavour and walked in space together to swap out a battery in the same location, so "they know this work site inside and out," Navias said.

Marshburn, Hadfield and Russia's Roman Romanenko are set to return to Earth on Monday. NASA Administrator Charles Bolden told reporters on Friday that their return will go ahead as planned.

Another reason to do the repair quickly: There may be some ammonia left which will help the spacewalkers find the leak, which is generating visible white flakes, Humphries said.

Last year, station instruments revealed a radiator leak that was so small that it wasn't visible. It was in the same general area, but NASA isn't sure if it is the same leak or not, he said.

In November, two other spacewalking astronauts tried to reroute coolant lines to bypass the tiny leak but it wasn't successful, he said. □



In this image made from video provided by NASA, astronauts Chris Cassidy, foreground, and Tom Marshburn prepare for a possible spacewalk from the International Space Station on Friday, May 10, 2013. Associated Press



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## Actavis, Warner Chilcott discussing possible combination

**MARLEY SEAMAN**  
AP Business Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — The drugmakers Actavis Inc. and Warner Chilcott PLC say they are holding early discussions about a possible combination of the two companies.

The companies say there is no guarantee that Actavis will make an offer for Warner Chilcott, however. Actavis expects to generate more than \$8.1 billion in revenue this year while Warner Chilcott expects raise about \$2.3 billion to

\$2.4 billion. Actavis was formed in October through a \$5.6 billion combination of Watson Pharmaceuticals of New Jersey and Actavis of Switzerland. It is one of the world's biggest generic drug companies. Warner Chilcott is based in

Ireland and sells the ulcerative colitis drugs Asacol and Delzicol, osteoporosis drug Actonel, and several oral contraceptives. Warner Chilcott shares climbed \$3.60, or 24 percent, to \$18.61 in afternoon trading after the disclosure

of the talks. According to FactSet, the company's market capitalization stood at \$3.76 billion as of Thursday's close. Actavis shares gained \$12.89, or 12.1 percent, to \$119.70 and reached an all-time high of \$121.13. □

## Investors, Icahn challenging new Dell takeover plan

**TOM MURPHY**  
AP Business Writer

Dell's largest independent shareholder has teamed with activist investor Carl Icahn in another challenge to founder Michael Dell's \$24.4 billion bid to take the struggling computer maker private.

Southeastern Asset Management and Icahn said in a letter sent Thursday to the Dell Inc. board that they want to let shareholders keep their stock and give them either \$12 per share in cash or additional shares in a deal that keeps the company publicly traded. They said this would give shareholders a stake in future gains made by the Round Rock, Texas, company.

An investment group led by Michael Dell offered earlier this year to pay \$13.65 per share in a deal that would take the company private. Southeastern and Icahn criticized that proposal in a scathing letter to Dell's board outlining their latest offer.

The letter accused the Dell board of insulting shareholder intelligence by claiming to be focused on shareholders' best interests

while accepting Dell's offer to buy the company at a price "far below what we consider its value to be." "You not only sanctioned Michael Dell's offer, which amazingly allows him to

percent of the company's outstanding shares. They said that if the board does not deem their offer superior, they will work "assiduously" to convince the other shareholders to reject

ferred long enough from very wrong-headed decisions made by the board and its management," the letter states. "Do not make another by putting the company through an unnecessary debilitating proxy fight."

"Allow the shareholders to decide for themselves which offer they choose," Icahn and Southeastern wrote.

If the company fails to give shareholders a choice, it will face "legal liability," the letter warned in all capital letters.

Dell spokesman David Frink said a special committee of the company's board is reviewing the letter from Icahn and Southeastern.

PC sales have been declining as people delay replacing desktop and laptop computers and spend money instead on smartphones and tablet computers. Michael Dell believes he can turn around the company by diversifying into more profitable niches such as business software, data storage and consulting. The company founder wants to do this without worrying about Wall Street's fixation

on short-term results.

But Southeastern and Icahn said in their letter that all company shareholders should benefit from a turnaround.

They say the company can rein in overhead, marketing and supply costs, it can expand beyond its core business, and it has growth potential in emerging markets like China, India and Brazil.

"We truly believe the best days for Dell are yet to come and the company has a tremendous opportunity to build on its strong platform," the letter states. Major shareholders started expressing their unhappiness with Michael Dell's offer shortly after the company announced it in early February.

In a letter to Dell's board of directors, Southeastern CEO O. Mason Hawkins warned he would lead a shareholder mutiny unless the company came up with an alternative.

A competing bid from buyout specialist Blackstone Group LP then emerged, and Icahn also made a preliminary proposal to buy 58 percent of Dell stock for \$15 per share. □



**Dell founder Michael Dell, left, and Carl Icahn, are seen in a combination photo. Dell's largest independent shareholder has teamed with activist investor Icahn in another challenge to Michael Dell's \$24.4 billion bid to take the struggling computer maker private.**

(AP Photos)

purchase the company from shareholders with their own money but, to add insult to injury, you have agreed to give Mr. Dell a breakup fee of up to \$450 million," the letter states. Southeastern and Icahn said they own about 13

Michael Dell's bid, which he made with the investment firm Silver Lake. They also would nominate a dozen directors at the company's annual meeting to challenge the current board.

"This company has suf-

## Hess Corp. to split roles of CEO and chairman

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Hess Corp. will split the positions of CEO and chairman as it fights off a campaign by a major shareholder for a change in leadership at the New York energy company.

John Hess, son of the company founder, will hold on to the CEO title, but the non-executive chairmanship will go to John Krenicki, former GE vice chairman, if

shareholders approve during the company's annual meeting next week.

Earlier this year in a letter to shareholders, Elliott Management accused the Hess board of "poor oversight" of management for "over a decade of failures," and revealed a 4 percent stake in the company.

The hedge fund is seeking to place its own slate of nominees on the board

and on Friday, dismissed the company's actions.

"A resolution to split the Chairman & CEO roles at Hess is on this year's proxy," Elliott said. "Hess's announcement today is not a concession or step on the part of the Company, rather it is a reaction to the shareholder vote currently underway. It is significant to note that Hess's Board recommended against this

split only a few weeks ago." Elliott recently bumped up its stake in Hess to 4.52 percent.

Elliott was seconded earlier this month by the influential firm Institutional Shareholder Services, which backed its efforts publicly and recommended that shareholders support Elliott's slate of five nominees for the board.

Hess is undergoing substan-

tial changes.

In March, the company announced that it would sell its retail gas stations business, along with its energy trading and marketing businesses, to become more purely an exploration and production company. It's also selling U.S. oil storage terminals and plans to close a New Jersey refinery as it exits the volatile refining business. □



## Postal Service posts \$1.9B loss for 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter

RON NIXON

© 2013 New York Times

**WASHINGTON** — The financially troubled Postal Service announced Friday that it had posted a \$1.9 billion loss in the second quarter, which ended March 31, compared with a \$1.3 billion loss in the previous quarter,

when holiday spending and heavy spending on political advertising during the 2012 election helped the agency stem its losses. The Postal Service said it continued to suffer from a decline in mail volume and a 2006 congressional mandate that requires it to pay \$5.5 billion into a health fund for its future retirees. The agency defaulted on two

payments last year for the first time and said it would not be able to make payments into the fund this year because of its worsening finances.

Postal officials said the Postal Service continues to lose \$25 million dollars a day as the agency waits for Congress to pass legislation to overhaul the postal system. Mickey D. Barnett, chairman of the Postal Service board of governors, which oversees the agency, said the board has asked agency officials to take several actions to deal with the continuing losses. □

# U.S. stocks rise for third week in a row

BERNARD CONDON

AP Business Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Small was beautiful this week.

The Dow Jones industrial average closed above 15,000 for the first time on Tuesday, then held above that milestone for the next three days. But an index of small-company stocks put the blue-chip gauge to shame this week. On Friday, the Russell 2000 closed the week up 2.2 percent, more than double the Dow's gain.

Investors are in love with small stocks because they stand a greater chance of surging ahead than large, global companies do if the U.S. economy continues to fare better than Europe and Asia.

"GDP growth was 2.5 percent in the first quarter — not spectacular, but better than Europe," said Joseph Tanious, global market strategist of J.P. Morgan Funds. "Europe is sucking wind."

On Friday, the Dow, an index of 30 large-company stocks including global giants like IBM and Caterpillar, rose 35.87 points to close at 15,118.49 after flitting between gains and losses most of the day.

The Dow's meager gain of 0.2 percent was trumped by the 0.9 percent advance in the Russell 2000. The small-company index rose 8.90 points to 975.16. Both indexes, as well as

the Standard & Poor's 500, closed at record highs. All three rose for a third straight week.

The sharp increase in small-company stocks is also a sign that investors are more willing to take on risk. Small stocks can offer investors

including crude oil and gold fell sharply as the dollar strengthened against other currencies, especially the Japanese yen. When the dollar rises against other currencies, it tends to weaken demand for commodities. Since commo-

index is expected to rise 5 percent, according to S&P Capital IQ, a research firm. "The talk at the end of April was company earnings are slowing," said Gary Flam, who manages stock portfolios at Bel Air Investment Advisors. "But clearly that's not been the case in the first ten days."

The S&P rose every day since the beginning of the month until Thursday, when it fell six points.

Flam speculates that stocks are rising partly because investors have shifted from fear to greed.

"The last few years, risk was defined as losing money," he said. "The last few months, it's been defined as not making money."

In another sign that investors were embracing risk, prices for ultra-safe U.S. government bonds fell, sending their yields higher. The yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note rose sharply, to 1.90 percent from 1.81 percent late Thursday.

The gains in the stock market were broad. Nine of the ten industry groups in the S&P 500 index were higher. Health care stocks rose the most, 1.1 percent.

The Nasdaq composite index was up 27.41 points, or 0.8 percent, to close at 3,436.58.

One dollar was worth 101.58 yen, more than the 100.54 yen it bought late Thursday. □



**A staff of Nissan gallery bows inside the headquarters of Nissan Motor Co., in Yokohama, near Tokyo, Friday, May 10, 2013. Nissan said fiscal fourth quarter profit jumped 46% on stronger sales and a favorable exchange rate.**

(AP Photo/Koji Sasahara)

greater returns, but they are also more volatile than large stocks.

Dow stocks were held back by falling commodity prices. Exxon Mobil, Chevron and Alcoa — all Dow members whose fortunes are tied to the prices of crude oil and other basic materials — closed down 1 percent or more.

The price of commodities

ties are priced in dollars, buyers using other currencies get less for their money when the dollar appreciates, and they respond by buying less.

Stocks have benefited from record-high corporate profits. Nearly all companies in the S&P 500 have reported first quarter earnings. The average net income for companies in the

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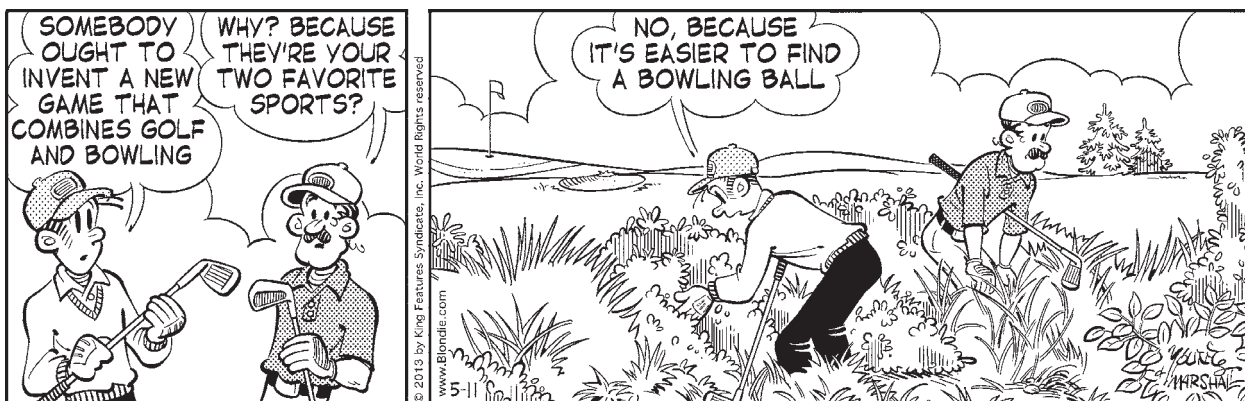
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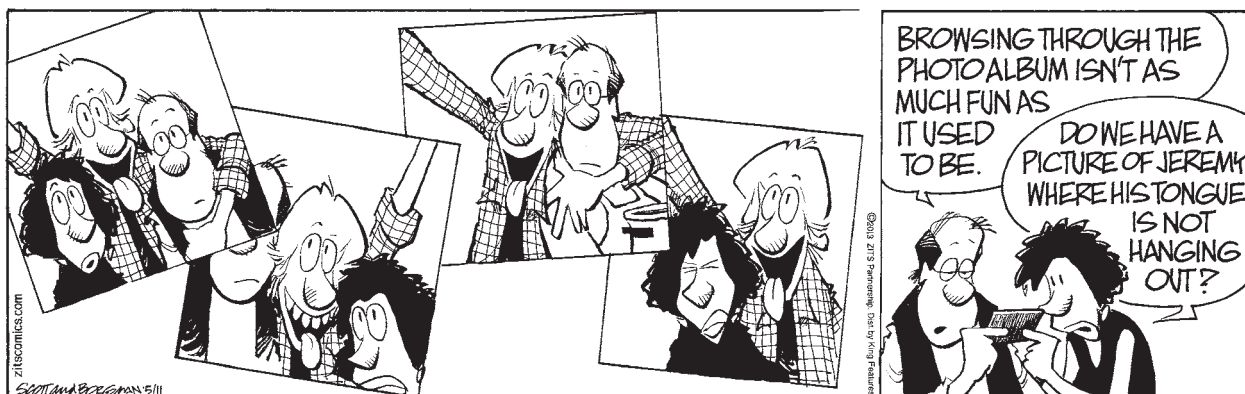
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**Conceptis Sudoku**

			5		4			
				3		7		
	8	1				5		
2				8				5
	7		6		9		2	
3				4				1
		3				4	9	
		5		6				
			9		7			

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

5/11

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

6	9	1	8	2	7	4	5	3
5	8	3	1	4	6	9	2	7
4	2	7	5	9	3	6	1	8
2	7	5	4	8	9	1	3	6
9	1	4	3	6	2	7	8	5
3	6	8	7	5	1	2	4	9
8	3	9	6	1	4	5	7	2
1	5	2	9	7	8	3	6	4
7	4	6	2	3	5	8	9	1

**ACROSS**

- 1 \_\_\_ guilty; fessed up
- 5 Undress
- 10 TV's Trebek
- 14 Not taped
- 15 Din
- 16 Within reach
- 17 Does drugs
- 18 Pianist Previn
- 19 Space agcy.
- 20 Like a lousy paint job
- 22 Galore
- 24 Bread for a Reuben
- 25 Bowling alley button
- 26 Thrill
- 29 Buddy
- 30 Ring-shaped island
- 34 Uncle \_\_\_ Rice
- 35 Cat or hamster
- 36 "Queen of Soul"
- 37 Blind as a \_\_\_
- 38 Depot
- 40 Owns
- 41 Kicks out
- 43 Online laugh
- 44 Part of a three-piece suit
- 45 Lure
- 46 Writing instrument
- 47 Rue & Gilbert
- 48 More ancient
- 50 Facial twitch
- 51 LL Cool J and Dr. Dre
- 54 Gave a new moniker to
- 58 Doing nothing
- 59 Semiaquatic mammal
- 61 Hoopla
- 62 Russian rulers' title of old
- 63 Has to have
- 64 Consequently
- 65 Mattel's male dolls of the '60s
- 66 Wipe away
- 67 Bambi, for one

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15					16			
17				18					19			
20				21				22	23			
24				25								
26	27	28		29				30	31	32	33	
34				35				36				
37				38				39			40	
41				42				43			44	
45				46				47				
48				49				50				
51	52	53						54			55	56
57												
58				59		60				61		
62				63						64		
65				66						67		

Created by Jacqueline E. Matthews

5/11/13

**Friday's Puzzle Solved**

ADOPT	ATOP	PASS
CAPRI	TYPE	ABLE
TREED	ONTO	LOIN
SENSIBLE	PSEUDO	
TELL	FLATTER	
IMPOSE	ALERT	
LEI	TABLE	AESOP
LAND	KATES	SIDE
STEEL	GATES	TOT
COVER	LINERS	
UNRAVEL	GLEE	
LOADER	PASSWORD	
COME	MALI	TEHEE
ESPN	IRON	ASIAN
REST	NEWS	STORY

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5/11/13

**DOWN**

- 1 In addition to

- 2 Shopper's slip of paper
- 3 At any time
- 4 Abandons
- 5 Adder or asp
- 6 Actor Danza
- 7 Get \_\_\_ of; shed
- 8 Jerusalem, \_\_\_
- 9 Marshmallow
- 10 Ms. Funicello
- 11 Slender; thin
- 12 Wind direction
- 13 Diagnostic negative
- 21 Certain vote
- 23 Memorize
- 25 Desert reptile
- 26 Flowed back
- 27 Go away
- 28 Prank; caper
- 29 Split \_\_\_ soup
- 31 Each \_\_\_; one another
- 32 \_\_\_ apso; small long-haired dog
- 33 Goes on & on
- 35 Half-qts.
- 36 Email provider for millions

- 38 Fashion
- 39 Charged atom
- 42 Gary & Jackie
- 44 Emptied, as a room
- 46 Keep bothering
- 47 Immoral deed
- 49 Male bee
- 50 Brief in replying
- 51 Actor Schroder
- 52 Shaping tool
- 53 Think ahead
- 54 Communists
- 55 Oliver's request
- 56 On \_\_\_; jittery
- 57 Entryway
- 60 Soothing drink



Continued from Page 11

The election of both the national and provincial assemblies comes at a time of widespread despair in Pakistan, as the country suffers from weak economic growth, rampant electricity and gas shortages, and a deadly Taliban insurgency.

The bombings that killed three people Friday occurred in Miran Shah, the main town in the North Waziristan tribal area, a major sanctuary for the Pakistani Taliban. The blasts also wounded 15 people, said intelligence officials, speaking on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to the media.

The candidate who was gunned down in Karachi, Shakil Ahmed, was running as an independent for the provincial assembly, said police officer Mirza Ahmed Baig. There is concern that the violence could benefit Islamist parties and those who take a softer line toward the militants, including Khan and former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, because they were able to campaign more freely. The government plans to deploy 600,000 security personnel on election day.

After more than a decade in the political wilderness, the Oxford-educated Khan has emerged as a force in the last two years with the simple message of "change." He has tapped into the frustrations of mil-

lions of Pakistanis — especially urban middle class youth — who believe the traditional politicians have been more interested in enriching themselves through corruption than governing.

The two main parties that have dominated politics — the Pakistan People's Party, which led the most recent government, and Sharif's Pakistan Muslim League-N — have ruled the country a total of five times in the past 25 years. Khan has also struck a chord by criticizing Pakistan's unpopular alliance with the U.S. and controversial American drone attacks against Islamic militants in the country's northwest tribal region.

"Voting for Imran is saving Pakistan, and voting for others means destroying Pakistan," declared Khalid Azeem, a student attending the last big rally by Khan's party, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf, before the election. Support for the 60-year-old Khan may have increased out of sympathy following a freak accident this week at a political rally in which he fell 15 feet (4.5 meters) off a forklift, fracturing three vertebrae and a rib. He is expected to make a full recovery and seems to be making the most of the accident. The party has repeatedly aired an interview he did from his hospital bed hours after the fall as a paid advertisement on TV.

Nobody is sure how effec-

tive he will be in translating his widespread popularity into votes, especially considering he boycotted the 2008 election and only got one seat in 2002. Turnout will be critical, especially among the youth. Almost half of Pakistan's more than 80 million registered voters are under the age of 35, but young people have often stayed away from the polls in the past.

Khan faces a stiff challenge from the two main parties, which have spent decades honing vote-getting systems based on feudal ties and political patronage, such as granting supporters government jobs. Because of the strength of this old-style politics and unhappiness with the outgoing government, many analysts see the Pakistan Muslim League-N as the front-runner in the election. Sharif has twice served as prime minister and is best known for testing Pakistan's first nuclear weapon in 1998. □

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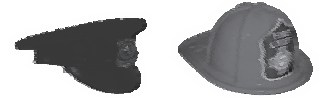


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Michelle Donato



# Greenhouse gas level highest in 2 million years

Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Worldwide levels of the greenhouse gas that plays the biggest role in global warming have reached their highest level in almost 2 million years — an amount never before encountered by humans, U.S. scientists said Friday. Carbon dioxide was measured at 400 parts per million Thursday at the oldest monitoring station in Hawaii, which sets the global benchmark.

The number 400 has been anticipated by climate scientists and environmental activists for years as a notable indicator, in part because it's a round number. "What we see today is 100 percent due to human activity," said Pieter Tans, a senior scientist with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The burning of fossil fuels, such as coal for electricity and oil for gasoline, has caused the overwhelming bulk of the man-made increase in carbon in the air, scientists say. At the end of the Ice Age, it took 7,000 years for carbon dioxide levels to rise by 80 parts per million, Tans said. Because of the burning of fossil fuels, carbon dioxide levels have gone up by the same amount in just 55 years.

The speed of the change is the big worry, said Pennsylvania State University climate scientist Michael Mann. If carbon dioxide levels go up 100 parts per million over thousands or millions of years, plants and animals can adapt. But that can't be done at the speed it is now happening. The last time the worldwide carbon level was probably this high was about 2 million years ago, Tans said. That was during the Pleisto-

cene Era.

"It was much warmer than it is today," Tans said. "There were forests in Greenland. Sea level was higher, between 10 and 20 meters (33 to 66 feet)."

Other scientists say it may

lution, carbon dioxide levels were around 280 ppm, and they were closer to 200 during the Ice Age, which is when sea levels shrank and polar places went from green to icy.

Some scientists and envi-

rons of carbon dioxide into the air per year, leading all countries, and its emissions are growing about 10 percent annually. The U.S. at No. 2 is slowly cutting emissions and is down to 5.9 billion tons per year.

said. He said the amount should be even higher, but the world's oceans are absorbing quite a bit, keeping it out of the air.

Carbon dioxide traps heat just like in a greenhouse and most of it stays in the



In this Sunday, Dec. 2, 2012 photo, a flock of Geese fly past the smokestacks at the Jeffrey Energy Center coal power plant as the sun sets near Emmett, Kan. Associated Press

have been 10 million years since Earth last encountered this level of carbon dioxide. The first modern humans only appeared in Africa about 200,000 years ago. When measurements were first taken in 1958, carbon dioxide was measured at 315 parts per million. Levels are now growing about 2 parts per million per year. That's 100 times faster than at the end of the Ice Age. Before the Industrial Revo-

ronmental groups promote 350 parts per million as a safe level for CO<sub>2</sub>, but scientists acknowledge they don't really know what levels would stop the effects of global warming.

"Physically, we are no worse off at 400 ppm than we were at 399 ppm," Princeton University climate scientist Michael Oppenheimer said. "But as a symbol of the painfully slow pace of measures to avoid a dangerous level of warming, it's somewhat unnerving."

The world pumps on average 2.4 million pounds of carbon dioxide into the air every second for a total of 38.2 billion tons in 2011, according to international calculations published in a scientific journal in December. China spews 10 billion

Environmental activists, such as former U.S. Vice President Al Gore, seized on this week's milestone.

"This number is a reminder that for the last 150 years — and especially over the last several decades — we have been recklessly polluting the protective sheath of atmosphere that surrounds the Earth and protects the conditions that have fostered the flourishing of our civilization," Gore said in a statement. "We are altering the composition of our atmosphere at an unprecedented rate."

There are natural ups and downs of the greenhouse gas, which comes from volcanoes and decomposing plants and animals. But that's not what has driven current levels so high, Tans

air for about a century. Some lasts for thousands of years, scientists say. It accounts for three-quarters of the planet's heat-trapping gases. There are others, such as methane, which has a shorter life span but traps heat more effectively. Both trigger temperatures to rise over time, scientists say, which is causing sea levels to rise and some weather patterns to change. Last year, regional monitors briefly hit 400 ppm in the Arctic, but those monitoring stations aren't seen as a world mark like the one at Mauna Loa, Hawaii.

Generally carbon levels peak in May then fall slightly, so the yearly average is usually a few parts per million lower than May levels. □

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## Nevada high school choir will back Rolling Stones

**LAS VEGAS (AP)** — You can't always get what you want. Unless, perhaps, you're a member of the Green Valley High School choir and you want a chance to sing on stage with the Rolling Stones.

The Henderson school's choir will join the Stones at the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas Saturday night for the encore performance of their hit song, "You Can't Always Get What You Want." Choir director Kim Ritzer said she thought it was a joke when she first got a message on Facebook from someone she didn't know inviting them to sing backup for the famous rockers. She later learned a friend who teaches music at the University of Southern California had recommended them. "When I announced it to the kids,

I think their parents were more excited than they were because some of them didn't even know who the Rolling Stones were," Ritzer told KLAS-TV (<http://tinyurl.com/c7w3en4>).

They sealed the deal with an audition via Skype for a representative of the band in London.

"I called my dad. He was screaming at me over the phone and said, 'Are you kidding me?'" said Kyle Sorenson, a freshman in the Green Valley High choir.

The 24 singers had only had two weeks to learn the song they'll perform with Mick Jagger and company Saturday night. The singers have to be at the arena by 1:30 p.m. for the 8 p.m. show, but nobody is complaining. "I'm going around going, 'Hey, so who's performing with the Rolling Stones



This May 3, 2013 file photo shows Mick Jagger of the Rolling Stones performing on the kickoff of the band's "50 and Counting" tour at the Staples Center in Los Angeles. The Green Valley High School choir in Henderson, Nev., will join the Stones at the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas Saturday, May 11, for the encore performance of their hit song, "You Can't Always Get What You Want." Associated Press

on Saturday?" senior friends that are into the ets?' And I'm like, 'No. Alex Miller bragged. Rolling Stones are, like, sorry. It's an exclusive "It's cool, like, a lot of my 'Can you get me tick- thing.'" □

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This April 11, 2013 file photo shows Mike Tyson, a cast member in "Scary Movie V," at the Los Angeles premiere of the film in Los Angeles. Associated Press

## Plans set for cartoon show to star Mike Tyson

**NEW YORK (AP)** — U.S. TV network Adult Swim says it's turning Mike Tyson into a cartoon detective. The network announced Friday a new animated series called "Mike Tyson Mysteries" that will feature the retired boxing champ. On the show, a cartoon version of Tyson will solve

wacky problems, assisted by a trusty associate: a foul-mouthed pet pigeon. The network said Tyson will voice the animated character, as well as make live-action appearances.

The show is targeted for next season, but no premiere date was specified. □

## Kate Upton goes 'Vogue,' covering its June issue

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Kate Upton has gone from a Sports Illustrated swimsuit issue cover model to the front page of Vogue. Upton tells Vogue that runway modeling is "not what I set out to do" and that she desires to front a major fashion campaign and maybe even launch her own lingerie line. She also says she would like to continue acting. Upton has appeared in "The

Three Stooges" and "Tower Heist." She's also got a part in an upcoming film called "The Other Woman" starring Cameron Diaz and Leslie Mann. Of her various goals she says, "I'm American — more is more!" This week, Upton attended the annual Met Ball in New York, which is hosted by Vogue. The Vogue June issue goes on sale May 21. □



In this image released by Vogue, model Kate Upton graces the cover of the June 2013 issue. Associated Press

# Leo and Tobey, finally together in 'Gatsby'



This film publicity image released by Warner Bros. Pictures shows Tobey Maguire as Nick Carraway and Leonardo DiCaprio as Jay Gatsby in a scene from "The Great Gatsby." Associated Press

**JAKE COYLE**  
AP Entertainment Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Tobey Maguire didn't have to go far when Leonardo DiCaprio called him about meeting to discuss an adaptation of "The Great Gatsby" with Baz Luhrmann.

"I happened to live next door to Leo at the time, so it wasn't a far journey," Maguire says. "I was like, 'Oh, yeah. Sure. I can be over in 30 seconds if that's good for you.'"

"The Great Gatsby" is the first film of note co-starring the two longtime pals. It's fitting, too, because they play the classic tandem of the desperate romantic Jay Gatsby (DiCaprio) and his lone friend, the narrator Nick Carraway (Maguire) — who, not unlike Maguire, lives adjacent to Gatsby. Working together on a film is a long time coming for DiCaprio and Maguire. In a recent joint interview at the Plaza Hotel in New York, the two cheerfully reflected on their close friendship, flashing occasional glimpses of the same boyish competitiveness that first brought them together as child actors vying for the same parts.

"After I met Tobey at an audition, I felt like I wanted this guy to be my

friend," recalls DiCaprio. "I remember driving back from school and he was doing 'Hot Rod Brown Class Clown' with Whoopi Goldberg outside Hollywood High. It was a high school. And I jumped out of my car in the middle of the scene, as they were shooting, practically. I was like, 'Tobey! Tobey! Tobey! Give me your number.' He was like, 'Yeah, who are you again?'" That began some 25 years of a friendship that hasn't been warped by time or fame. They've remained steadfast while their careers ascended from frantically chasing parts in "Critters 3" (DiCaprio's film debut; Maguire got turned down) to being among Hollywood's top leading men. They've taken different routes. DiCaprio broke out as a teen idol in "Titanic," star power he then used to tackle ambitious roles with top-tier directors like Martin Scorsese ("The Aviator," "Shutter Island"), Steven Spielberg ("Catch Me If You Can") and Clint Eastwood ("J. Edgar"). Maguire built himself through acclaimed dramas ("The Ice Storm," "Wonder Boys," "The Cider House Rules") before landing the "Spider-Man" franchise. "Every project we do, we talk about,"

says DiCaprio. "Every single choice I've made, I've talked to Tobey about and vice versa. We've had endless conversations about certain projects and argued with one another and supported one another along the way."

Maguire, 37, and DiCaprio, 38, both grew up in divorced families of modest means in Los Angeles.

"We both came from similar upbringings," says DiCaprio. "We had humble beginnings, let's put it that way. We both were these young, very enthusiastic, ambitious young men that really wanted to get our foot in the door."

They share two previous credits: The first is the 1993 Tobias Wolff adaptation, "This Boy's Life," in which DiCaprio beat out Maguire for the role opposite Robert De Niro's domineering stepfather. The two, though, had made a pact that if either got the lead, he would help the other get cast in a supporting role. Maguire played a smaller part.

The two also starred in the 2001 low-budget, black-and-white film "Don's Plum." The actors discount the film, which spawned lawsuits over attempts for it to be theatrically released. □



## The Chancellor's Lament



JOE NOCERA

© 2013 New York Times

By most measures, Holden Thorp's five-year tenure as the chancellor of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, which is coming to an end next month, was a roaring success. The university went from 19th to ninth in federal research grants. Undergraduate applications rose 43 percent. And, at a time when university budgets are under extreme pressure, Thorp helped keep UNC an affordable public university.

But you won't find a lot of people giving Thorp, 48, a pat on the back. For the last three years, North Carolina was mired in an athletic scandal. And the fact that it took place on Thorp's watch overshadows everything else he did. Though it started out as an NCAA rules-violation investigation, it morphed into an academic scandal when it was discovered that the chairman of the African and Afro-American Studies Department had long allowed students — athletes very much included — to take no-show classes.

For a university that had long held itself out as one of the "good schools" athletically, the scandal has been humiliating. The NCAA meted out penalties to the football team. The football coach, Butch Davis, was fired. The athletic director resigned. Even the college accrediting agency got involved.

By his own admission, Thorp was shellshocked by the experience of dealing with the scandal. As a lifelong North Carolina partisan, he had bought into the myth of the university as a place that harvested genuine student-athletes. The scandal showed him a reality he never before had to face. It also engulfed him. If you are a college chancellor or president, you can't delegate when there is a problem in the athletic department. "The governing board, the newspaper, the fans, the faculty, they all expect you to sort it out," he said. He was spending, literally, half his time dealing with the football team. Yet he had no real experience with the business of college athletics — nor, for that matter, do most college presidents.

He found himself buffeted this way and that. At first, he supported his coach, but then he finally felt he had to fire him. He did so at the worst possible moment: on the eve of a new season. His news conferences dealing with

the scandal were, by his own admission, "terrible." He was, to be blunt, in over his head.

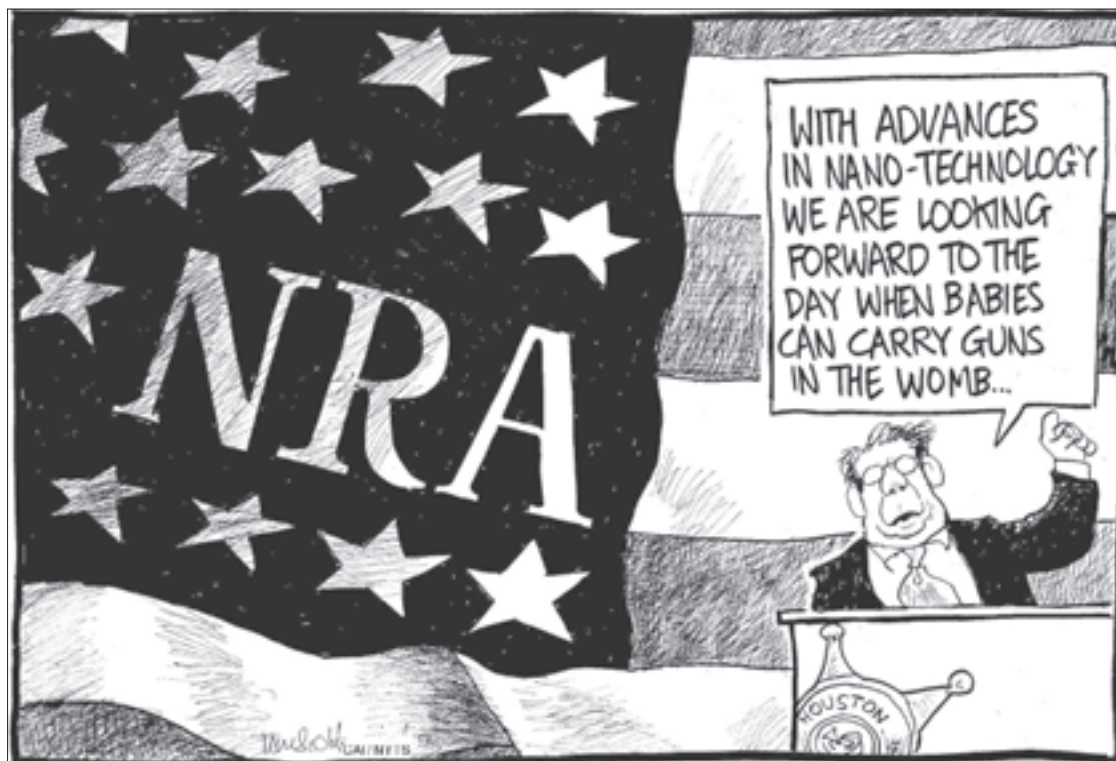
And as he departs UNC, his message is that virtually all college presidents are in over their heads when it comes to their athletic departments. They have no background, no experience, that would prepare them for overseeing the \$6 billion entertainment complex that big-time college sports has become. In the early 1990s, the Knight Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics issued a series of reports saying that college presidents needed to regain control of their athletic departments and restore "integrity." The NCAA adopted this position.

But today, notwithstanding this supposed reform, the system is as morally corrupt as ever — and far more awash in money. It's conference presidents, not college presidents and chancellors, who run college sports. The prototypical modern athletic director is David Brandon at the University of Michigan. His previous job — are you sitting down? — was chairman and chief executive of Domino's Pizza. He is an unabashed revenue maximizer. Compared with the hard-nosed businessmen who control college sports, the presidents and chancellors are babes in the woods. The main thing they offer everyone else in the system is cover.

Not surprisingly, Thorp's comments have not exactly been embraced. At UNC, there is still a lot of indignation, some deserved, at the way Thorp handled the scandal. Some people think he is trying to shuck his responsibility. People associated with the Knight Commission are also upset. Hodding Carter III, a former president of the Knight Foundation, which finances the commission, was quoted as saying Thorp was "wrong on every count." But he's not. Even the Knight Commission has begun to examine whether the system is so broken that it can't be reformed. That is what Thorp now thinks. He is not ready to go as far as I do, namely, end the hypocrisy and start calling "student-athletes" what they really are: employees who deserve to earn a paycheck for their labors. But he does believe athletes should be allowed to attend school after their playing days are over. And, he said, "the concept of amateurism" — the current bedrock of college athletics — "needs to be examined." For a college chancellor, those are radical words. Thorp himself will soon move to Washington University in St. Louis, a first-rate academic institution that no one will ever mistake for the University of North Carolina athletically. It is in Division III, meaning, among other things, it doesn't offer athletic scholarships. Not long ago, when he was being taken around the Washington University campus, Thorp remarked, "I hear that the football stadium seats 3,500."

"Yes," came the response, "but it's never been tested."

"I'm looking forward to Division III," Thorp told me. □



## Religion Beyond The Right



FRANK BRUNI

© 2013 New York Times

As the Boy Scouts of America reassesses its ban on gay Scouts and leaders, we're hearing a lot about the organization's need to remain sensitive to people whose religions condemn homosexual behavior. Their morals must be properly respected, their God aptly revered.

But what about the morals and the God of people whose religions exhort them to be inclusive and to treat gays and lesbians with the same dignity as anyone else? There are many Americans in this camp, and their opposition to the Scouts' ban is as faith-based as the stance of those who want it maintained. Take Scott Ward, 48, a public relations executive and married father of three in Takoma Park, Md. He's a Scout leader, with a 10-year-old son who's a Scout. He's also an elder in his Presbyterian church.

And for him, the ban must go not in spite of what Christianity says about homosexuality (or what selective literalists have decided it says), but because of what it says about humanity.

"From my faith perspective, singling people out for exclusion from the life of the church or the life of the community cannot possibly be part of God's plan," Ward told me on the phone recently. He added, "If you look at the people Jesus tended to

be most suspicious of, they were people who sat in positions of authority to say that they had the unique ability to judge others."

We refer incessantly in this country to the "religious right," a phrase routinely presented as if it's some sort of syllogism: To be devoutly religious is to gravitate to a certain side of the political spectrum, one set of values dictating the other. "Christian conservatives" is an almost equally ubiquitous bit of alliteration.

But there's a religious center. A religious left. There are Christian moderates and Christian liberals: less alliterative and less dogmatic, but perhaps no less concerned with acting in ways that reflect moral ideals. We should better acknowledge that and them. And we should stop equating conventional piety with certain issues only and sexual morality above other kinds. Our tendency to do that was illustrated by the hullabaloo last year over the Nuns on the Bus. The Vatican officials who wanted them to be more assertively anti-abortion and anti-birth control were portrayed as the dutiful guardians of tradition, while the nuns, focused on matters of economic justice, were the rebels. Why? It's as fundamentally Catholic and Christian to care about the underprivileged as to safeguard the unborn (or to combat homosexuality). Indeed, many Catholics look to a politician's social welfare policies as much as they do to other positions, and vote in a manner that would be accorded a label other than conservative.

Many people of faith are pacifists, and that's a decisive factor in how they cast their ballots, though this concern is infrequently characterized in religious terms. "I find it perplexing the way the 'moral values' phrase is used," said the Rev. Mark Greiner, the pastor at the Presbyterian church that Ward attends.

"Concern for the environment, concern for workers' rights: Those are moral values," he told

me. "But the phrase ends up being limited to matters of human sexuality, as if Jesus was primarily concerned with what people did with their reproductive parts. It's crazy-making."

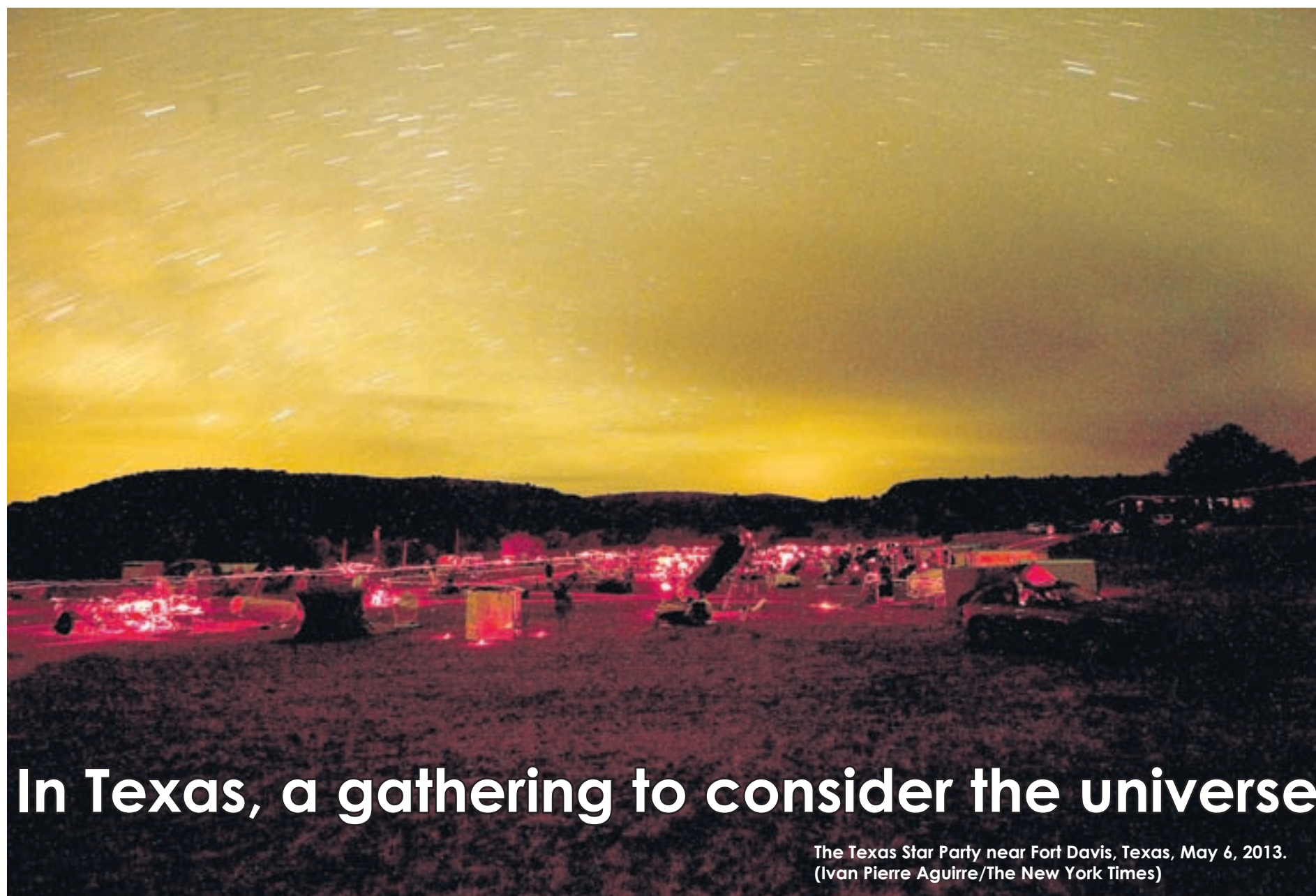
Greiner wants the ban on gay Scouts and leaders lifted. Religion is inevitably part of the Scouts' debate: More than 70 percent of local Scout troops are chartered by religious groups. Later this month, the organization's National Council will vote on a recommendation that the ban on gay Scouts be lifted but the prohibition against gay leaders be preserved. The Mormons have indicated that they can live with this. The National Catholic Committee on Scouting has been vague.

The Baptists have cried foul, as have evangelicals like Tony Perkins, the president of the Family Research Council, which sponsored a webcast over the weekend called "Stand with Scouts Sunday." Texas Gov. Rick Perry appeared on it to denounce any change to the ban, and for good measure called homosexuality "the flavor of the month."

Like pralines 'n cream, I guess. But that's not the whole story. The Episcopal Church wants all aspects of the ban lifted, as does the National Jewish Committee on Scouting, whose former chairman, a Baltimore lawyer named Jay Lenrow, told me that while no troop should be forced to choose a gay leader, no troop should be prevented from doing so, either.

He noted that our country was founded on a principle of religious freedom; that the Scouts' bylaws require equal treatment of every religion's teachings; and that certain denominations — the Episcopal Church and the Presbyterian Church (USA), for example — ordain gay and lesbian ministers. By the Scouts' current rules, those very ministers, fit for the pulpit, aren't deemed fit to lead a troop. Isn't that as much of an insult to their religions as the ban's end would be to Perkins, Perry and their kind? □





# In Texas, a gathering to consider the universe

The Texas Star Party near Fort Davis, Texas, May 6, 2013.  
(Ivan Pierre Aguirre/The New York Times)

**ANNE SAKER**

© 2013 New York Times

FORT DAVIS, Texas – With a lime-green fleece blanket over his shoulders, Samuel David, 10, of Houston, bounced on his toes as dusk raced over the mountains. Attending his first Texas Star Party this week with his family, Samuel could not wait for a rare phenomenon in a lighted-up, night-denying world – a sky full of nothing but stars.

"It gives me a sense of direction," Samuel said. "It's pretty. It's a chance to look out there and say, 'Oh, there it is.'"

In its 35th year, the Texas Star Party drew more than 500 amateur astronomers from across the United States and Canada to the Prude Ranch, six miles from Fort Davis and 5,000 feet above sea level in the Davis Mountains. Three fields were planted with telescopes of astounding design, many of them built by hand and all lovingly ferried by car to the dusty high desert.

The Texas Star Party is run

by volunteers from astronomy clubs in Dallas, Houston and Austin with support from the University of Texas' McDonald Observatory just 16 miles away. For many amateurs, the event is their Super Bowl.

"It's world famous," said Keith Venables of Surrey, England, a fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society, who was making his 15th trip. "It's the biggest and the best. I can do more observing in a week than I can all year at home."

"There's nothing like it," said Pierre Faucher, who brought his telescope with its 24-inch mirror from Raleigh, N.C. "This is where I can get out and get perspective on my place in the universe."

The infinite science of astronomy gets enrichment from its amateurs. The discipline attracts largely men approaching or in retirement, with time and money, and practitioners say the challenges of drawing young people are growing. Light pollution has reduced backyard stargazing to the

planets and the brightest stars like Sirius and Arcturus. Climate change generates frustrating banks of cloud cover. More recently, support for expert amateurs to reach out to students has come under threat.

The federal budget pro-

posal for fiscal 2014 would move money that NASA and other agencies grant to outside-the-classroom science clubs to promote their fields to students. The money would instead go to the National Science Foundation and the Smithsonian

Institution for more teacher training. That idea, said Gary Carter, the president of the Texas Astronomical Society, "is not a bad thing at all." "But not everyone goes to college," he said. "So that's taking away a tremendous amount of informal education."

The Texas Star Party packs its daytime schedule with talks and seminars. For "astronomy widows," the TSP Ladies group hosts a book club and a tea at the main house at Prude Ranch, which the Prude family established as a cattle ranch in the 1890s. Eighty years ago, the family opened its 3,500 acres to guests for camping, horseback riding, bird-watching and RV camping – and in 1982, to the Star Party.

Brad Sanders of Houston turned 15 at his second Texas Star Party, and he set up an 18-inch telescope that his father, John, had bought two weeks before. "But for the first hour or two," Brad said, "we'll probably just sit out here and enjoy it." □



Tom Laskowski, of South Bend, Ind., sets up his telescope for the Texas Star Party near Fort Davis, Texas, May 5, 2013. In its 35th year, the event drew more than 500 amateur astronomers from across the United States and Canada to gaze together into the vast open skies.

(Ivan Pierre Aguirre/The New York Times)